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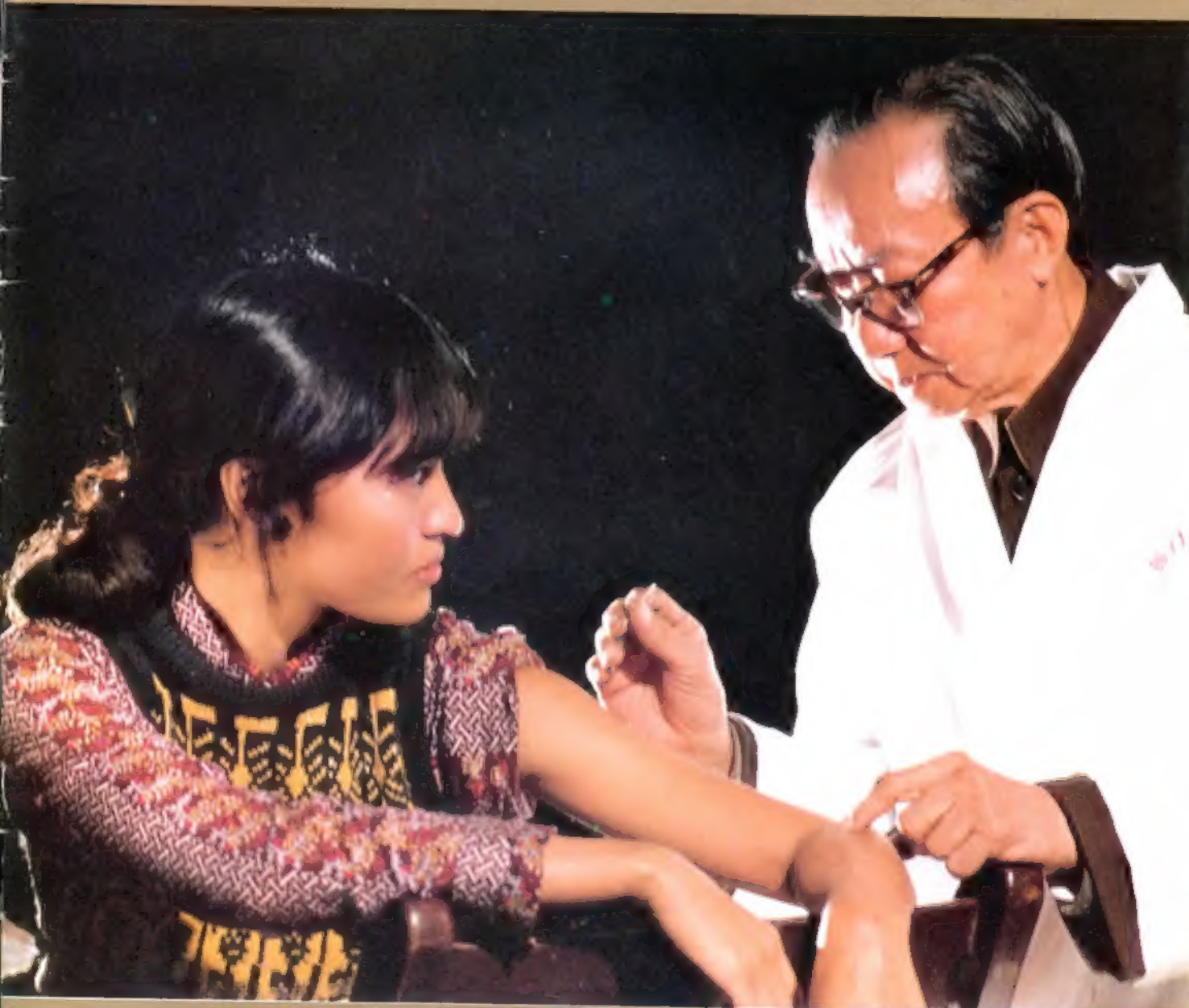
September 3, 1984

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Growing Economic Ties With E. Europe
- US Again Meddles in China's Internal Affairs



Acupuncture Today



Some editions of the "Compendium of Materia Medica," on display in Dr. Li Shizhen's home village, Qichun County, Hubei Province.

Dr. Gao Huiyuan (left), Deputy Secretary-General of the Traditional Chinese Medical Association, examining prescriptions for medicinal liquor.



A patient receiving moxibustion at the Li Shizhen Traditional Chinese Medical Hospital in Qichun County.



Li Shizhen's Tomb, in Qichun County.

Pharmacists making up a prescription at a herbal drugstore in Qichun.



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COVER: Chen Yinglong, a famous doctor
of traditional Chinese medicine in
Fujian, treating a patient with acu-
puncture.

Photo by Chang Hongen

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

President Li's Visit to Romania

President Li Xiannian was in Bucharest August 20-29 at-
tending Romania's National Day celebrations and paying a
state visit. He spoke highly of Romania's successes in building
socialism and of Sino-Romanian friendship (p. 6).

Closer China-Eastern Europe Economic Ties

State Councillor Chen Muhua says her visit to Hungary,
Poland and Czechoslovakia in June-July this year was satis-
factory. In an interview with *Beijing Review*, she described
China's growing trade and other economic relations with
Eastern Europe and expressed hope for further development
of these relations (p. 16).

US Political Parties Interfere in China's Affairs

Disregarding widely accepted international norms and the
three communiques guiding the relations between China and
the United States, both the US Republican and Democratic
parties are trying to openly interfere in China's internal affairs
in their presidential election campaign platforms (p. 12).

Exile Never Dampened His Spirit

The daughter of Deng Xiaoping gives a moving account of
the three years her parents spent in exile, after her father was
branded "the country's No. 2 capitalist roader." Although
under strict supervision, Deng and his wife gained the confi-
dence and respect of workers at a nearby factory, where they
were doing manual work (p. 17).

What Liberation Means for China

A description by Sidney Shapiro, a Chinese citizen of
American origin who has lived in China since 1947, of the
old society China overthrew and the path it has followed since
1949, the year of liberation (p. 19).

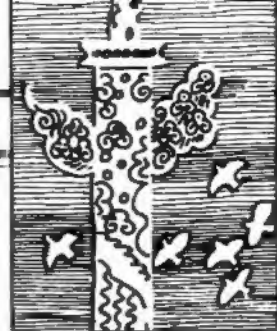
Acupuncture and Moxibustion Find Scientific Base

Acupuncture and moxibustion, though not cure-alls, are
widely used in China to relieve pain and treat certain ailments
and diseases, chronic as well as acute ones. Now, encouraging
developments have not only put these time-honoured techniques
on a solid scientific foundation, but have made this therapy
more effective (p. 25).

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Nationwide Concern for Elderly

by XIN LIN
Social Editor

The national work conference on the aged held recently in Beijing urged that all of society be mobilized to study and resolve the problems confronting the elderly in China.

China's population as a whole is not aging. But the growth in the number of old Chinese people and their proportion in the population are the quickest ever recorded. In the 18 years from the second census in 1964 to the third census in 1982, the number of people over 60 went up 82 per cent, and the number of those over 65 doubled.

China now has 80 million people over 60 and 50 million people over 65, the most in the world. That is almost equal to the combined total of old people in the United States and the Soviet Union.

Much has been accomplished in helping China's senior citizens, considering the fact that a systematic study of their problems started only a few years ago. Organizations working for their welfare have been set up by central and local authorities, special periodicals have appeared, work units have begun sponsoring activities to meet their needs, such as initiating special study programmes, improving medical care, welfare facilities and services. The retirement system for cadres, workers and staff is being improved, and some prosperous production teams have begun retirement schemes of their own.

Respect, love and care for the elderly have always been traditional Chinese virtues. The proverb, "we should respect our elders and those of others" dates back at least 2,000 years. Caring for the aged is regarded as obligation in each household, and grown-up children have a duty to care for their parents under the law. Neglecting or mistreating old people is condemned by the public. Many married couples are still living with their parents, and the three generations live in harmony.

In present-day China, caring for the elderly is not just the responsibility of their children, but of the whole younger generation.

Even four-generation families are living together.

But it must be noted that with the development of society, the traditional big family is gradually disintegrating. Husbands and wives in many households both work, and live away from their parents. In order to curb its population growth, China is pursuing the one child per couple policy. This will place a heavy burden on only children when the time comes for them to care for their parents, and even their grandparents.

In view of this situation, Chinese leaders have stressed that caring for the elderly is not just the responsibility of their children, but of the whole younger generation.

Setting aside for the moment the family and morality aspects of the

problem, from a purely economic view the material and cultural wealth and special skills China is enjoying today stand on the firm foundation laid by its older generation. Supporting the old people is a kind of compensation for the fruit of their labour which everybody is now sharing. It is also a kind of repayment for their bringing up the younger generation.

With the improvement of health care in China, people live for many years after their retirement. Of the 12 million workers and staff who have retired, many are actually still able to work. And some old people still have great aspirations. How to take advantage of their initiative is now an important question when discussing the elderly.

We have discussed some of the solutions in the *Beijing Review*. In Tianjin, a northern port city, members of the retired engineers association have used their years of experience to solve numerous technical problems for factories. And a retired air force medical officer returned to his hometown to treat patients free.

The problems of old people are an important social issue today, and a complicated topic for scientific research. Worldwide study of the elderly started in the 1930s but China began its work only recently. It must now work hard to catch up.

As a developing socialist country with a long history and the largest population in the world, China should make greater contributions to mankind in solving the problems of the old people.

More on Policies

I am very pleased with the attractive colour covers, interesting reports and wide coverage in the first few issues of this year.

Beijing Review provides readers with necessary information about China, especially about people's lives, population, sports and diversification of agriculture. But my friends and I would be very glad if you could carry more details about China's policies.

Your magazine is succinct and well-planned, with a good layout and attractive inside covers.

I like *Beijing Review*. So will others, I believe, if they happen to read it. Thanks to your magazine, we non-Chinese may keep abreast of developments in your country and cherish our close relationship with you.

Sam Chuttoo
Rive-Du Poste, Mauritius

Developing Hainan

I was touched by your articles on Hainan, the "treasure island." The famous Monk Jianzhen was once blown by trade winds to Hainan Island while on his way to Japan. So Hainan Island was firmly rooted in my imagination as a tiny and insignificant island. I was surprised to learn that it is almost as big as Taiwan Island, and has a treasure of hard timber free from borers and excellent for construction.

Various difficulties will have to be confronted and large sums of money will be invested to exploit this precious island. I hope you will soon realize this ambition.

Morimasa Watanabe
Aichi, Japan

Modern Chinese Literature

Zhong Jihua's recent article on modern Chinese literature (No. 20) is illuminating and I agree with the author that "the influence of Western modernism on modern Chinese literature is very weak."

I do want to suggest that, while the poems of Xu Zhimo and the fiction of Shen Congwen may be limited in what they tell us about the realities of Chinese society, no novel can tell of all the splendours or struggles of a nation as great as China. Having personally enjoyed seeing such different but equally wonderful parts of the Chinese countryside as Shen Congwen's own west Hunan and rural Zhejiang, where relatives of mine live, I can only note that even today China is so big and varied that her reality cannot be fully revealed by the efforts of single authors. Still, some literary works live on because one can get something new out of them every time one reads them. As Zhong Jihua says, Shen Congwen's *Out-of-the-Way Town* (well translated by Gladys Yang as *The Border Town*, published by Panda Books) is a great artistic achievement, and Xu Zhimo's poems are good artistically. In Shen's novel, one may see romanticism reading it the first time, but perhaps a strain of pathos the next. I hope that there will not be less study of Shen Congwen and Xu Zhimo, but more study of Lu Xun, Mao Dun, *et al.* China has many excellent writers; we abroad want to know more about all of them!

Jeffrey C. Kinkley
New Jersey, USA

Comments & Suggestions

I appreciate the Art Page, which acquaints readers with

Chinese art. But in my opinion, if it were in colour it would be better. The front and back covers should be made more attractive in order to attract more readers.

We are really interested in reading articles on your progress and different kinds of activities, as well as goods which are exquisitely made by the Chinese and which are familiar to us.

The article "Workers' Education at Anshan Company" in *Beijing Review* (issue No. 3) was particularly good. Peru lacks such great projects for workers' education. I think your plan can be used as a model in South America.

Many people talk about oriental philosophies, maxims and great temples. Would you like to introduce us some specific people and places. In order to widen our horizon? In addition, can you tell us how the Chinese people treat love and religion?

Tomas Flores R.
Lima, Peru

Rural Commodities Production

I like Wan Li's "Developing Rural Commodity Production" (issue No. 9). Mine is a typical agricultural country and we need more knowledge in this area. That's why we are so interested in this article.

I think the inside cover and the Art Page in your magazine are vivid and lively, offering complete images of various Chinese characteristics.

A reader from Costa Rica

Li Attends Romanian National Day Celebrations

A Chinese Party and Government delegation led by President Li Xiannian arrived in Bucharest on August 20 to attend the celebrations for Romania's National Day—the 40th anniversary of the anti-fascist and anti-imperialist revolution of social and national liberation.

Li stayed on for an official visit, at Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu's invitation. In three rounds of talks, the two presidents briefed each other on their countries' internal developments and discussed bilateral and international relations. They expressed readiness to strengthen mutual relations and determination to pursue a foreign policy which is independent and suited to their own conditions.

The Romanian people won

their revolution under the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party (RCP) in August 1944. Since then the Romanian people have built their country into a powerful socialist society. From 1951 to 1983, Romania's industrial output value increased by an average 11.4 per cent per year, one of the highest growth rates in the world.

The Romanian people can be proud of their achievements, made under the leadership of the RCP led by Ceausescu, Li said during his visit.

Over the past 35 years since China and Romania established diplomatic relations in October 1949, the volume of trade between the two countries has increased from US\$4 million in 1952 to US\$700 million in 1983. According to the trade protocol between

the two governments and volume of cash transactions agreed upon in 1984, trade turnover will be further increased this year. In addition to traditional trade, China and Romania have begun to supply each other with whole sets or individual machinery, engage in production and technical co-operation as well as compensatory trade by way of joint exploitation of Chinese coal mines.

China and Romania are now prepared to sign a new long-term trade agreement, which is highly significant for steadily developing bilateral trade in a well-planned way.

Speaking at a banquet hosted by Ceausescu, Li said that the Chinese people will never forget the precious support given by the Romanian people, both in safeguarding the proper principles between socialist countries and Communist Parties of various countries and in the socialist construction and reunification of China.

"We emphasize the independence of each socialist country and favour internationalist co-operation between them," Li said. "There is no contradiction in this, as true internationalist co-operation can only be based on the independence of each country. The safeguarding of state sovereignty and proper national interests can not be labelled nationalism, still less as an excuse for external interference which runs counter to the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism. Romania has made consistent efforts to safeguard the proper norms of relations between socialist countries. The Chinese Government and people firmly support the stand of Romanian

President Li Xiannian visiting an exhibition on Romania's economic and social development.



Ceausescu Awards Deng, Li Medals

During President Li's stay in Bucharest, Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu conferred the "Star of the Socialist Republic of Romania," first class, on him and Deng Xiaoping, Chairman of the Central Advisory Commission of the Chinese Communist Party and of the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic of China. The medals were given for their outstanding contributions to greater co-operation between Romania and China, to stronger friendship between the two peoples, and to socialism, peace and international co-operation.

The medal is the highest honour Romania confers on its citizens or those of other countries who have distinguished themselves.

Government and people on this important issue."

Referring to the superpowers' global competition and constantly spiralling nuclear arms race, Li said he is very glad to see that the Romanian Government opposes the policy of carving out spheres of influence, and wants to eliminate the confrontation of the big military blocs, opposes the arms race, the nuclear arms race in particular, and supports efforts for disarmament.

Confronted with the tense situation in Europe, Romania has sparked a strong enthusiastic peace movement at home. President Ceausescu repeatedly speaks out from a sense of justice, calling for all-out efforts to stop US deployment of missiles in Europe and the Soviet counter-measures, and to revive the Soviet-US negotiations.

"We share identical views with Romania on the issue of medium-range missiles. The United States and the Soviet Union should stop the deployment of more sophisticated nuclear arms in Europe

and other places and resume their negotiations so that they can agree to cut a large number of these weapons. We think the independence and sovereignty of European countries should be respected and their security safeguarded.

"We support the development of relations between Eastern and Western Europe and detente between the Soviet Union and the United States, because they are good for the peace and stability of Europe and the world."

This is Li's third visit to Romania. The first two were made when he led a Chinese delegation to take part in the celebrations of the 20th and 30th anniversaries of Romania's National Day in 1964 and 1974.

Hungarian Leader Firms China Ties

Despite some problems in the past, Sino-Hungarian trade is running at record levels and relations have developed at a remarkable pace. In what Premier Zhao Ziyang described as an "important event," these ties have been further strengthened by the official visit of Hungarian Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, Marjai Jozsef Elvtars. Marjai arrived in Beijing on August 20, at the invitation of Chinese Vice-Premier Li Peng.

Thanks to the concern and joint efforts of the leaders of both countries, economic, trade, scientific, technological, cultural and sports ties have been restored and expanded.

Two months ago, Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, Chen Muhua, visited Hungary. During her visit, the two states signed an economic and technological co-operation agreement and a protocol to establish a joint committee on economic, trade,

scientific and technological co-operation.

Peng Traces Root Of Gulf Troubles

"The Gulf area is one of those regions where imperialists and hegemonists are making trouble. The situation there is touch-and-go." Chinese NPC Standing Committee Chairman Peng Zhen told a delegation from the National Assembly of the State of Kuwait, led by Speaker Mohammad Yousif Al-Adsani. Al-Adsani and his delegation arrived in Beijing on August 23 at Peng's invitation.

Kuwait remains neutral and non-aligned in international affairs, supports the just cause of the Palestinian people and has tried hard to improve Arab unity and made the Gulf region more stable. China admires and appreciates this very much, Peng told the delegation.

Al-Adsani said China always appears as Kuwait's best friend at critical times. Forging firm ties between the National Congresses of the two countries is no less important than those between the two governments.

Zhao Guarantees Gain on Investment

"China welcomes more European industrialists to invest here. We guarantee that they will gain no less in China than in other countries." Premier Zhao Ziyang told a delegation of European Liberals and Democrats on August 23 in Beijing.

Zhao told the delegation, led by its President Willy de Clercq, who is Belgium's Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, that China is improving and perfecting its

legal system. Although it will take some time to complete this work, he said, China always keeps its word and is faithful to contracts which, of course, are legally binding. He said he hopes foreign industrialists will not worry about this.

Zhao said he hopes European countries will contribute more to transferring technology and offer more preferential terms in providing funds.

Clercq said that it is necessary to sign new trade agreements and find methods of financially assisting international trade in order to further trade relations between the European Economic Community and China. Vistas for expanding such trade relations are very broad.

Zhao's Message Supports Namibia

Premier Zhao Ziyang sent a message expressing his support for the Namibian people to Paul Lusaka, President of the UN Council for Namibia, on August 26, Namibia Day.

The message said that under the personal guidance of Lusaka, the UN Council for Namibia has unremittently supported the Namibian people's just struggle for independence over many years, and has sought early implementation of the relevant UN resolutions on Namibia, thus winning wide acclaim from the international community.

"The Chinese Government and people have always firmly supported the Namibian people in their struggle for national independence and the south African people in their struggle against apartheid and for racial equality, and have always strongly condemned the South African authorities for their illegal occupation of Namibia and con-

tinued delaying tactics aimed at obstructing the early realization of Namibia's independence. We maintain that the relevant resolutions on Namibia adopted by the UN Security Council should be implemented speedily, and the South African authorities' illegal occupation of Namibia should end at an

early date. We are convinced that under the leadership of SWAPO and with the support of the African frontline states and all justice-upholding countries and peoples, the Namibian people will attain their noble goal of national independence through their united struggle," Zhao's message said.

Navy Construction Requires Education

Founded in April 14, 1950, the Chinese navy has now matured into a fighting force of submarines, naval vessels, airplanes, and marine and seacoast defence units. Navy Commander Liu Huaqing said in a recent interview with the weekly *Liaowang* (Observation Post). Armed with modern weapons, the navy is able to fight on the sea, underwater or in the air, thus effectively safeguarding the coasts of China and maintaining its maritime rights, Liu said.

Liu took part in the Long March and has helped build China's navy and national defence since he returned in the 1950s after going abroad to study naval strategy.

As the world's offshore oil resources are developed, Liu said the maritime rights and interests of all coastal countries will be further expanded. This is a result of the new technological revolution.

He said the vast sea areas under Chinese administration and sovereignty have rich marine resources. According to geologists, China has 8,000 million tons in offshore oil reserves, ranking among the largest in the world. The deep-sea basin in the South China Sea abounds with manganese nodule ore.

Chinese waters are also home to 1,500 species of fish, 200 of which are economically valuable. In the future, as people begin to process and eat new kinds of deep water sea plants and animals, the Chinese people can get more and more protein from the oceans.

The tides also represent vast potential. Tidal energy reserves are estimated at 110 million kw, which will provide 87 billion kwh each year. So far only one-third thousandth has now been exploited.

The world technological revolution will usher humanity into a new era of large-scale exploitation of the sea, Liu continued. The military value of the seas will further increase, and the ocean-based rivalry between the two superpowers will be more intense than ever before. The urgent and important task now facing China's national defence is to speed up the construction of a modernized navy, capable of opposing any sea-based invaders and safeguarding the nation's marine rights and interests.

China is a big country with 18,000 kilometres of coastline. It has 6,000 islands and millions of square kilometres of sea area. The navy must be strong enough to resist any enemy coming from this vast area. This, together with the needs in the offshore oil industry, requires China to make its navy bigger and more modern.

Concerning these tasks under the present circumstances, Liu emphasized three points. First, it is necessary to unify the guiding thinking of how to build the navy, so that the navy can match the needs of a big country with a long coastline and the needs of opening up the offshore industry. Second, the navy must actively take part in the nation's

economic construction, and first of all support the building of the port cities. This, in turn, will speed up its own construction. And third, China is equipping its navy with guided missiles and electronic, nuclear and automatic weapons. This requires high priorities for better education and training and better run naval academies.

Veteran Communist Passed Away

Li Weiham, a veteran Party member, noted theoretician in united front work and minorities affairs and Vice-Chairman of the Central Advisory Commission, died of illness in Beijing on August 11 at the age of 88.

Li joined Mao Zedong and Cai Hesen in 1918 to organize the Xinmin Xuehui (New People's Society). Recommended by Mao and Cai, he joined the Chinese Communist Party in 1922. Li subsequently served in many important Party and state posts during the long years of Chinese revolution and construction. His offices included head of the United Front

Work Department of the CPC Central Committee, Secretary-General of the Government Administration Council, Chairman of the Central Nationalities Affairs Commission and Vice-Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

In his later years Li devoted all his energy to writing his memoirs. Ignoring his advancing age, he travelled to Shanghai, Nanjing, Guangzhou, Changsha, Wuhan and Xian to make investigations and collect materials. In his writings, he always sought truth from facts and stressed collective activities over his personal ones. His memoirs summed up the experience and lessons of the Party's work and re-evaluated his own life.

Li did not ignore or gloss over his shortcomings and past mistakes. Instead, the spirit of criticism and self-criticism can be found in every line. The memoirs have been acclaimed by historians and are regarded as a model of good writing.

Li and his aids wrote one million characters of memoirs in all. Of these, 600,000 have been published or will appear soon. They are a valuable heritage for future generations.

Comrades Li Weiham and Mao Zedong in 1951.



Acupuncture Studied Worldwide

The founding of a preparatory committee for the World Federation of Acupuncture and Moxibustion Societies (WFAMS) indicates that the ancient Chinese technology of acupuncture and moxibustion, now applied and studied the world over, has finally established itself scientifically.

The preparatory committee was formed at a two-day meeting (August 11-12) held in Beijing and attended by 30 Chinese and foreign specialists who are engaged in clinical treatment, research and teaching acupuncture and moxibustion.

They decided to hold another meeting in Beijing within a year to pick a date to formally launch WFAMS. A symposium on acupuncture and moxibustion will be held together with the inauguration.

The preparatory committee elected Prof. Kentaro Takagi of Japan chairman and Prof. Lu Zhijun of China executive chairman.

Kentaro Takagi, a physiologist and honourable professor in a Japanese university, has been conducting research on acupuncture and physiology for a long time. He was elected as chairman of the executive committee of the World Federation of Acupuncture and Moxibustion Societies in Manila in 1982. The Manila federation is the predecessor of the preparatory committee of WFAMS (in Beijing). China joined it in June 1984.

Lu Zhijun was formerly director of the Bethune International Peace Hospital and head of its surgery department in Yanan, the headquarters of the Chinese revolution in the 1940s. A surgeon trained in the Western style, he nevertheless treated more than 30

diseases with acupuncture and moxibustion in his hospital. He also encouraged other medical personnel to use these techniques.

After the founding of New China, Lu served as director of the Traditional Chinese Medicine Research Institute, and has conducted research on acupuncture and moxibustion for many years.

Nowadays in China acupuncture and moxibustion are used widely in big-city hospitals and rural clinics alike.

In early August the national acupuncture symposium, held in Beijing, received more than 700 papers describing the achievements and applications of research into this ancient medical technology in China today. (For details see p. 25). The presence of more than 800 specialists and scholars from 60 countries gave the symposium international significance.

According to historical records, acupuncture was introduced to Korea and Japan in the 6th century A.D. It later spread to Southeast Asia and India. Europeans took up acupuncture around the 16th century, with France playing an important role in its dissemination.

Acupuncture has been applied and studied in more than 100 countries and regions. In 1980, the World Health Organization (WHO) recommended the technique for treating 43 diseases. It has been used successfully in cases which were difficult to treat with existing Western medical techniques.

As one of the important components of world medical knowledge, the ancient techniques of acupuncture and moxibustion are playing a more and more important role. They will contribute to realizing WHO's goal of "health for all by year 2000."

China, 3rd Largest Fertilizer Producer

Only the United States and the Soviet Union produced more chemical fertilizer than China's nearly 13.8 million tons in 1983. And the output in the first half of 1984 — 7.4 million tons, promises to keep China at least third this year.

Because the development of agriculture in China is a top government priority, the output of chemical fertilizer has grown at an average annual rate of 28 per cent over the past 34 years.

When New China was founded in 1949, there were only two nitrogenous fertilizer plants which turned out 5,700 tons a year, less than the present daily output.

China now has more than 1,300 chemical fertilizer plants producing a dozen varieties, to enrich the soil and encourage growth.

A group of chemical fertilizer plants were built in the 1950s, and equipment was manufactured in the 1960s to build more than 40 medium-sized nitrogenous fertilizer plants in such cities as Shanghai and Guangzhou.

In the early 1970s China imported 13 complete plants, each capable of producing 1,000 tons of synthetic ammonia or 1,600 tons of urea a day. These installations turned out about 3.5 million tons of chemical fertilizer last year.

China also has more than 1,200 small nitrogenous fertilizer plants across the country, each with an annual output of 5,000 to 20,000 tons of synthetic ammonia, making full use of rich local coal resources. These plants produce more than half of the country's nitrogenous fertilizers.

Although China has become the world's third largest chemical fertilizer producer, the supply still

falls short of domestic demand. Chinese peasants use only an average of 148.5 kilogrammes of chemical fertilizers on each hectare of land. This requires a further increase in chemical fertilizer production.

China has 11,800 million tons of verified phosphorus ore reserves, ranking behind only the United States, the Soviet Union and Morocco. Eight phosphorus mines will be established in Yunnan, Guizhou and Hubei Provinces and four pyrite mines in Guangdong, Anhui and Hunan Provinces and the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region.

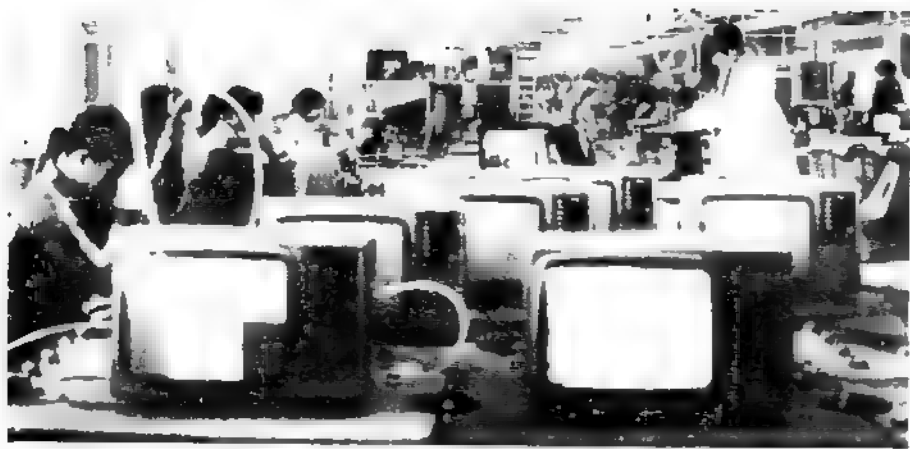
Also, the preliminary phase of construction of the Qinghai potash fertilizer plant has already begun in the Qaidam Basin. When the first phase is completed in 1987, the plant will produce four times as much potash fertilizer as the present total annual output of the entire country.

Guangdong Industry Booms

The province of Guangdong's gross industrial and agricultural output value has risen an average 8.5 per cent a year since 1979, faster than the national average output value for the same period. During the 10 years up to 1979 Guangdong's output value consistently lagged behind the national average.

Guangdong's success has been attributed to the policy of opening to the world in the past five years, which has ushered in a golden age for the economy of the province.

In 1983, Guangdong's gross industrial output value reached 30.57 billion yuan, up 49 times from 1949 and 56.3 per cent from 1978. Its gross agricultural output value reached 14.92 billion yuan, up 5.3 times from 1949 and 44.8 per cent from 1978.



The Shenzhen Huafa Electronics Co., Ltd. introduced a colour TV assembly line from Hongkong.

The open-door policy has attracted the foreign capital to technologically reform Guangdong's aging enterprises. The electronic industry department, for instance, imported 74 assembly lines worth US\$15 million for manufacturing colour TVs, radio-tape recorders and computers. As well, it imported 2,520 sets of metering equipment to solidify the technical foundation of electronic industry, pioneering in the virgin land of colour TV, tape recorders, stereos and microcomputers.

In the first half of this year, the department's gross output value was up 93.5 per cent from the corresponding period a year earlier.

Aside from the widespread use of advanced equipment in large and medium-sized enterprises, even small towns and villages are establishing first-rate enterprises by national standards. The Jiujiang Clothes Factory in Nanhai, previously a commune-owned mill for making shirts, is turning out more than 100 styles of high-quality dresses, suits and jackets, which are making their way into the European and American markets.

In the past five years, retail sales in Guangdong have soared an average 21 per cent a year. In 1983, they totalled 22.5 billion yuan, highest in the country.

Living standards are going up parallel to the increase in industrial and agricultural production. According to a sample survey last year in Guangzhou, the provincial capital, the average worker household possesses more sewing machines, watches, tape recorders, electric fans, colour TVs and refrigerators than elsewhere in China.

Hebei Luring More Foreign Investment

Governor of Hebei Province Zhang Shuguang announced 60 new economic and technical co-operative projects for the province at a meeting in Beijing at the beginning of August.

This northern province will hold an international trade talk on economic and technical co-operation, beginning October 22, in Shijiazhuang, the provincial capital, Zhang announced.

Zhang said the 60 proposed projects may take many different forms. These may include joint ventures, co-operative management, compensatory trade and processing and assembling according to samples. According to state regulations, favourable terms for

foreign investors have already been formulated and put into effect.

The governor called on business people from all over the world to invest in industry, communications and transportation, farming, animal husbandry, fishery and scientific research.

Besides its own investment, the province is offering various technical services and labour. It would also like to build enterprises abroad, jointly with foreign companies.

To promote and expand co-operation, the China Hebei International Economic and Technical Co-operation Corporation has been approved by the State Council to provide services for foreign investors.

Since 1979 the province has co-operated in various ways with many businesses from abroad. The Hebei International Trust and Investment Company, established in 1983, has signed more than 100 co-operative contracts with foreign countries, Zhang said.

Hebei Province, which surrounds Beijing, covers an area of 190,000 square kilometres and has 54.2 million people. It is a major grain and cotton producing area. It has good transportation facilities—railways, highways and seaports—and is rich in coal, natural gas, petroleum, limestone and other resources.

CORRECTION: In Issue No. 35, second page of the supplement, the bottom line should read: "3.5", 2, 1.5, 1, 0.5, 0, 0.5, 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5".



United States Party Politics Violates Principles

by CHEN SI

THE US presidential election campaign platforms of both the Republican and Democratic Parties on Taiwan clearly interfere in China's internal affairs and deeply hurt the feelings of the Chinese people.

The Republican platform, adopted on August 17 by the platform committee, claims that "it is the policy of the United States to support and fully implement the provisions of the Taiwan Relations Act." In mid-July, the Democratic platform stated that "we will continue to honour our commitments to the people on Taiwan, consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act."

On August 20, in a message to the Republican Party convention, China's Ambassador Zhang Wenjin strongly demanded that the Taiwan statements, which damage Sino-US relations, be removed from the Republican platform. Earlier, Zhang Zai, counsellor at the Chinese Embassy in Washington, made the same appeal to the leaders of the Democratic Party.

Sino-US relations experienced ups and downs since former President Richard Nixon's visit to China in 1972. However, it is important to note that during these years the two governments signed and released three joint communiques: the Shanghai Communique of 1972, the Communique on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations Between China and the United States in January 1979, and the Joint Communique of August 17 1982.

These communiques, which are the foundation of the development of Sino-US relations, stipulate that mutual respect for territorial integrity and non-interference in each other's internal affairs are the guiding principles of all aspects of Sino-US relations. Only by strictly following these principles can these relations develop healthily.

But the "Taiwan Relations Act" pledges continued US arms sales to Taiwan and expresses "grave concern" over the future of the island. In an attempt to create "two Chinas" or "one China and one Taiwan," it regards the Chinese territory of Taiwan as a "state." The "Taiwan Relations Act" thus runs counter to the three joint communiques and also to the US commitment that "there is only one China and Taiwan is part of it."

While pledging "to build a solid foundation for the long-term relations between the United States and the People's Republic," the Republican Party platform claims "to support and fully implement the provisions of the Taiwan Relations Act." That is contradictory. To doggedly implement the "Taiwan Relations Act" would mean interference in China's internal affairs in violation of the three joint communiques. Therefore, it would undermine the foundation of the development of Sino-US relations and lead to their retrogression.

It is said that both US political parties have a theory that the "Taiwan Relations Act," as legislation passed by Congress, has to be implemented. It must be pointed out that the United Na-

tions Charter and Article 27 of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties stipulate clearly that the domestic law of one country cannot stand above agreements with other countries or international law. A nation's law becomes invalid if it contradicts agreements signed with other countries. Therefore, the provisions of the "Taiwan Relations Act," a domestic law, are null and void because they violate the Sino-US joint communique on the establishment of diplomatic relations.

If the two US parties or the US Government are allowed to use this domestic act as an excuse to violate the bilateral agreements with China, the international community will ask how much past and future agreements with the United States are worth.

It is all the more preposterous for the Republican platform to declare openly that they "fully support self-determination for the people of Hongkong." Hongkong is China's territory and the people of Hongkong are the Chinese people's kith and kin. As for which social system will be adopted in Hongkong after China recovers sovereignty in 1997, this is China's internal affair and no foreign government or political party has the right to intervene.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, particularly since the exchange of visits this year between President Ronald Reagan and Premier Zhao Ziyang, Sino-US relations have made striking progress despite some twists and turns on the way. We would like to advise the Republican and Democratic Parties to refrain from intervening in China's internal affairs so that these relations can continue to advance steadily and durably.

Morocco-Libyan Pact

New Political Pattern in Maghreb

by ZHENG FANGKUN

"Beijing Review" news analyst

AFTER signing a treaty forming a state union between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya at the Moroccan town of Oujda, Libyan leader Muammar al Gaddafi, accompanied by Moroccan King Hassan's high-ranking advisor, went to Algiers and Tunis, proposing that their leaders join in the accord.

Because a framework to unify Maghreb (Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia) has been outlined in the pact, it is natural for the signers to send out invitations. However, since a similar pact was already signed in March last year between Algeria and Tunisia, and later Mauritania, the response to the invitations was cautious. As a result, a new political pattern has emerged in the region.

Arab countries in this region hope to establish a unified Maghreb and realize Arab unity in a larger scale. Since he assumed power 15 years ago, Gaddafi has been advocating Arab unity and many times announced a merger with other states, although none have lasted.

This time, the accord with Morocco is reported to form a relaxed union, which, instead of a merger, envisages only a gradual evolution towards a confederation. The participating countries will retain their sovereignty and original institutions when the treaty goes into effect after a referendum.

The main obstacle to Maghreb unity is the Western Sahara conflict. Until 1975 Algeria and Morocco had been on good terms. In that year, when the Spanish be-

gan withdrawing from the Western Sahara, Morocco claimed sovereignty over the former colony while Algeria backed the Polisario Front in its demands for independence. Soon war between Morocco and the Polisario guerrillas broke out, and Morocco severed its diplomatic relations with Algeria. In February 1983, President Chadli of Algeria and King Hassan had a meeting which observers said reduced the tension between them, but the Sahara issue remained unresolved.

To break the deadlock over the Western Sahara, Algeria was invited to attend the Oujda summit. But Algeria did not show up.

The Western Sahara conflict has gone on for nine years. Everyone in the region wants to stop the war and build a stable, peaceful greater Maghreb. Therefore, all the talks about Maghreb is centred on the Western Sahara. In May 1983, Algeria hoped to hold a greater Maghreb summit in Algiers, but Morocco and Libya failed to attend.

Since Gaddafi's spectacular reconciliation visit to Rabat in June 1983, relations between Morocco and Libya have been growing close. Yet before, the Libyan leader gave military and financial support to the Polisario guerrillas. Now, he has reduced his backing and is mediating between Rabat and Algiers, hoping the Arab world, rather than the African states, will find a solution to the Western Sahara dispute.

The suggestion to transfer the Western Sahara issue from the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to the Arab League was warmly welcomed by Rabat. A high-ranking Moroccan Government source, who was present at the Oujda union talks, said the

Arab League might sponsor the solution put forward by the OAU of a ceasefire and self-determination by elections. But he admitted that Algeria would not agree to a solution within the Arab sphere because it is in the minority in the Arab League on the issue. In the OAU, it has the support of those countries which recognize the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic.

Mauritania, which Rabat has charged permits the Polisario guerrillas to operate from its territory against Morocco, has so far no comment on the union pact. But semi-official hints are that this is "a Moroccan delaying tactics to dodge the relevant OAU resolutions," under which direct negotiations should be held between Morocco and the Polisario Front.

The Polisario Front had already criticized the Oujda summit before the announcement of the treaty, saying it was aimed at "removing the Western Sahara conflict from its international and African framework." The Front praised Algeria for not attending the Oujda summit.

Tripoli has drifted apart from Algiers, although their relations have always been good. Last year Libya asked to join the Maghreb pact signed by Algeria and Tunisia, but they insisted that such matters as Libya's border dispute with Algeria and continental shelf border line with Tunisia be settled first.

When the Morocco-Libyan union was announced, some considered it a challenge to the friendship agreement between Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania. They note that there are now two separate pacts linking the Maghreb states, despite individual professions of a desire for unity.

In a statement Algeria asserted that before the problem of Western Sahara is settled and the legitimate right granted to the West-

ern Saharian people, the unity of Maghreb could not be realized. Tunisia stated that it would remain loyal to the tripartite friendship agreement.

Morocco has declared that differences between the two treaties could be ironed out through the settlement of the Western Sahara conflict. Many observers in the Arabworld agree. The *Gulf Times* said, "We shall see sometime later there will be two blocs in north Africa. They differ a lot in views, propositions and political positions. But this may con-

stitute a step forward to genuine Arab unity."

Meanwhile, the new pact will crystallize the improvements Morocco and Libya have made in their relations over the past year. The newly established union will guarantee Morocco that Libya takes a neutral stand over its conflict with the Polisario. In return, Morocco will remain neutral towards Chad.

Although the union has been called unnatural, and a union of no common ideology, it in fact serves the political and security aims of the two signers.

already been deployed around Moscow

Similar efforts by the United States are also worthy of attention. In March 1983, Reagan dramatically announced what the Western press dubbed the "star wars programme" for the deployment both on earth and in outer space of laser, particle beam and microwave weapons, satellite killers and interceptor missiles. This defence system could intercept and destroy the incoming Soviet ballistic missiles in the space before they approached the continental United States. The proposed programme, to be completed by the end of this century, will cost US\$200,000 million to \$300,000 million

The rapid development of space defence weapons stems from the superpowers' bid to gain overall nuclear supremacy as the accuracy of nuclear missiles has improved in recent years. The United States, for example, has followed the strategy of "mutual assured destruction" for years. This theory states that when the US and Soviet nuclear weapons are balanced, neither side will dare to launch a "first strike" because the ensuing retaliation would lead to nuclear annihilation. This theory stressed mutual containment.

In recent years, however, this theory has been challenged. Some US strategists believe instead that a "first strike" which would destroy the rival's commanding organizations and military targets and thus cripple its ability to counterattack seems possible. Proponents of this theory insist that strengthened strategic defence be made a top priority "to resist the offensive superiority of ever more advanced strike weapons."

This is the strategic thinking that has led to Reagan's "star wars programme," which means to fully use US hi-tech superiority to achieve a breakthrough in space

Washington-Moscow

A New Phase in Space Arms Race

by ZHANG DEZHEN

THE current US-Soviet quarrel over talks on space weaponry reflects the superpowers' intensified rivalry for supremacy in outer space, which is revealed by the movement away from simply developing military satellites to developing space weapons intended for actual combat. Deployment of these weapons would create a "fourth battlefield" (the other three being land, sea and air)

How do the superpowers' space arsenals stand at present?

So far the United States and the Soviet Union have launched some 3,000 satellites, most of them for military purposes. The Soviet Union leads in anti-satellite weapons, and has conducted more than 20 tests of this kind. The United States is using F-15 fighter planes to launch its anti-satellite weapons and its first test last year was a success

The introduction of the space shuttle has more or less closed the gap in the space arms race. Since 1981, the United States has launched three shuttles—the "Colum-

bia," "Challenger" and "Discover"—and the construction of two more is on the agenda. Faced with this serious challenge, the Soviet Union tested its first space shuttle, a smaller model than the US shuttles, last year.

Since the end of the 1970s, the Soviet Union has laid the groundwork for a permanent orbit space station, which can serve as a permanent exploration base. The United States, trying to catch up, plans to put its first permanent space station into orbit before 1992. Such a station could be converted into a large-scale anti-missile base, such as proposed by US President Ronald Reagan in March last year.

Both superpowers have been developing anti-ballistic missile (ABM) system since the 1960s. Despite their 1972 treaty limiting the deployment of anti-ballistic missiles, they have actually accelerated the development of these weapons. According to Western reports, the Soviet Union is "quietly going all out" to build a nationwide anti-missile system using the latest laser and particle beam technology. A system like this has

defence weapons and weaken the Soviets' power to launch a nuclear attack.

But even when "mutual destruction" becomes "mutual defence," it does not mean that the nuclear arms race will lose momentum and the world become safer. Just as the nuclear "shield" could be

made stronger, the nuclear "spear" could be made sharper. What will happen is that arms race will spiral alternately in offensive and defensive systems.

It is, therefore, clear that the new phase of the superpowers' rivalry in space weapons is pregnant with even graver danger to world peace and security.

Britain

Strikes Threaten Economy, Government

by TAO SHU and YI YING

THE sustained strikes in Britain, touched off by the miners' walkout, have seriously affected its economy and political situation.

The mineworkers' strike, which has lasted for more than five months, is the longest walkout since 1926. On March 6 the British Government announced it would close down 20 of 174 mines, dismiss over 20,000 of 180,000 mineworkers, and cut coal production from 101.4 to 97.4 million tons in the coming year.

The National Mineworkers Union then called a strike of its 12,000 members, hoping to guarantee their job security. They brought 145 mines to a standstill, and the government has still not reached any agreement with the union after several rounds of negotiations.

The 36,000 member dockers' strike, which started on July 10, was to protest port employers' use of unregistered workers to unload iron ore for a steel plant. The dockers had refused to handle the ore in sympathy for the striking mineworkers. The strike, backed by the seamen's union and railway workers union, spread to two-thirds of the country's ports.

The background behind the

strikes is complex. British mines lost \$600 million last year because of declining output and the fact that foreign coal is more than £10 cheaper than British coal per ton. To compensate, the government worked out a plan which included shutting down mines, dismissing workers and reducing production. This plan also aimed to weaken the mineworkers union.

But the union insisted that the government should increase its investment in mining in order to meet coal demands which are expected to double by the end of the 1980s when North Sea oil output drops.

The British Government first tried to threaten the striking mineworkers by closing down more mines. Then it tried to soften them by promising larger compensation fees for dismissal. It also stirred up conservative workers to call for a national strike referendum. With coal at hand, Thatcher refused to make concessions.

The British mineworkers union, which has struggled against the government many times in its history, has also shown no signs of compromise during the strike.

The dockers' sympathy strike was nothing more than a test of the government's political strength. The dockers walked out in order

to safeguard the National Dock Labour Scheme signed by the government, port employers and dockers union in 1947. The scheme, which had been opposed by the government and employers, says employer cannot use unregistered workers without the union's permission.

The strikes have seriously damaged the British economy. Eighty-three per cent of the mines have come to a standstill. Many are deteriorating because of lack of maintenance; there have been explosions and cave-ins, and the equipment is getting rusty. Some rich mines may be abandoned.

According to the British newspaper *Daily Express*, Britain lost £3,000 million during the first 17 weeks of strikes. In May iron and steel production, limited by the coal shortage, dropped 14 per cent compared with the corresponding period last year. Industrial production declined 1.5 per cent from the first three months of 1984.

The dockers' strike paralysed more than 90 ports, leaving three-quarters of exports and imports stranded at quaysides and bringing international trade to a near halt.

British finances wavered in the face of these losses. London stocks declined sharply, and the pound reached its lowest point in recent years. Unemployment, a serious problem before the strikes, is getting worse.

The strikes have also eroded the government's prestige. Polls in the British newspaper *Guardian* show that the Conservative Party's popularity has dropped to its lowest point in three years.

The strikes have broadened disputes within the Conservative Party, and increased attacks from the opposition. There is speculation that more than 100 Conservative members of Parliament are trying to push for Thatcher's resignation.

Chen Muhua on Trade With Eastern Europe

Chen Muhua, State Councillor and Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, visited Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia from June 24 to July 9 this year. "Beijing Review" interviewed the minister recently on China's trade relations with these countries, as well as Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic.

Question: Would you tell us something about China's trade relations with Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia since your visit? What were the results?

Answer: I was joined on my trip by members of the State Planning Commission and the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade. We were all received with great warmth by the leaders of the countries we visited.

The visits were very satisfactory. I exchanged views with leaders of the three countries on how to further develop economic and trade relations. And on behalf of the Chinese Government, I signed with each of them an agreement on economic and technological co-operation and protocols on the establishment of an economic, trade, scientific and technological co-operation commission. We also signed trade agreements for 1986-1996. This has ushered in a new era in China's trade relations with Eastern Europe.

Q: Can we have some details about China's trade relations with these three countries?

A: Let's recall China's trade relations with Eastern Europe as a whole.

We had fairly good trade relations with Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia and other Eastern European countries in the 1950s, with the trade volume holding a heavy proportion of foreign trade on both sides.

But the volume of China's trade with them plummeted early in the



Chen Muhua

1960s, for reasons known to all. Things didn't improve until 1970, and by 1980 the trade volume reached about US\$1,000 million, a record.

At present, the main problem in expanding trade is that the variety of goods exchanged between us is not wide enough, and some do not satisfy our mutual needs. Therefore, deciding what goods to trade is the key to how quickly commerce will develop. China imported whole sets of machinery from Eastern Europe in the 1950s, including power stations, cement plants, sugar refineries and machine-building factories. But over the past 30 years our machine-building industry has developed rapidly, and we have cut back our imports of these items.

Q: How can we develop bilateral trade under these circum-

stances? Has your visit resolved anything?

A: Bilateral trade between China and Eastern Europe has great potentials. The volume of import and export trade with Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic (GDR), Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary in 1984 will reach US\$1,000 million. This roughly accounts for 2 per cent of China's total volume, while it accounts for less than 1 per cent of the total foreign trade volume of those five countries. It is therefore possible to further develop our bilateral trade, and both sides intend to do so. The problem simply is we lack mutual understanding. The minister of GDR heavy engineering industry, who came to China this year, said after visiting Dalian and Shenyang that he'd rather say the Germans don't understand China than say China doesn't understand them. The deputy minister of commerce of Czechoslovakia, who visited China last May, said his country hoped to import TV sets and tape recorders, after seeing what we were producing in Beijing, Shanghai and Jiangsu Province.

As for the Chinese, we also feel we do not understand them well. Now all of us are willing to better our understanding and promote trade under the principles of equality and mutual benefit and of helping supply each other's needs. This will provide important and favourable conditions for enlarging the variety of goods traded and the scope for co-operation, and will

strengthen the economic ties between us

In order to meet the needs of the four modernizations, we are not only importing advanced technology and equipment but are also transforming existing enterprises technically. We can import some of the 3,000 technological items we need to transform existing enterprises from the East European countries. In turn, they are in great need of our industrial and mineral products, light industrial and textile goods, agricultural produce and by-products. So it is possible for both sides to co-operate further

Q: You signed the agreement on establishing an economic, trade and scientific and technological co-operation commission. Does it guarantee further development of co-operation and trade?

A: Our economic exchanges with East European countries in the past took two forms: trade and scientific and technological co-operation

The agreement signed this time is valid for 10 years, opening up all sorts of possibilities.

First of all, our open policy is a

long-term policy. This provides important preconditions for developing trade with all countries.

Second, each country has its strengths and weaknesses, and we can help each other through co-operation. For example, Jilin Province, although short of money, can import leather-processing equipment from Czechoslovakia, while Czechoslovakia can provide the advanced equipment because it needs leather.

Third, both China and Eastern Europe have facilities for joint production, research on new products and joint construction of some projects.

Fourth, we need their techniques and equipment to help us transform existing enterprises

The co-operation commission will have a government minister as its chairman. It will meet once a year in each capital in turn, to study major problems and to co-ordinate efforts in bilateral co-operation.

We do our best to bring out local initiative for trade with these countries. For instance, Shanghai can exchange goods with East European nations outside both the

agreement and the Chinese state plan. Yunnan Province, besides its normal tea export, can import goods it needs by exporting more tea.

The East European countries have developed economies built by 90 million people. They produce 60 million tons of steel every year. The per-capita output of many products is very high: that of grain reaches almost 1.5 tons in Hungary, one ton of steel in Czechoslovakia and 3.6 tons of coal in Poland

China's broad market and developing modernization programme offers good opportunities for further development of trade. So we are pleased with the prospects for expanding ties with the East European countries in trade, economics, science and technology

Marjai Jozsef, Hungarian Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, visited Beijing at the invitation of China. Leaders of other East European countries are also welcome here to promote mutual understanding. China works hard for the stable and planned development of trade and technological co-operation with these countries

My Father's Days in Jiangxi

This article, written by Maomao Deng Xiaoping's daughter, originally appeared in "Renmin Ribao" (People's Daily) on August 22. We present a summary. — Ed

DURING the "cultural revolution" my father was accused of being "the country's No. 2 capitalist roader." After living incommunicado in Beijing for two years, on October 20, 1969 he was told he would be "evacuated" to Jiangxi Province

My father, mother and my father's stepmother lived for more than three years in an infantry academy in Xinjian County, near Nanchang, the provincial capital. Like many other schools, the academy was abandoned early in the "cultural revolution," and the three of them lived in a two-storey red brick building which used to house the school's principal

Soon after their arrival, my parents, at their own request, be-

gan working half day in the mornings in a tractor plant. My father worked as a fitter, a trade he learned on a work-study programme in France shortly after World War I. Though many years had elapsed, he worked just as conscientiously and skilfully. My mother's job was to take apart and wash coils

Because my father was the "No. 2 capitalist roader," they were taken to the plant under armed guard and were strictly forbidden

to "speak or move about without permission."

They were paid no wages; only a small monthly allowance. They were very frugal because they wanted to save money so that my younger brother and I, who both worked in distant production teams, could visit them.

They raised chickens and vegetables. Every day, after returning from the factory, my parents and grandmother spent their afternoons in the garden.

At first workers in the factory regarded my parents with curiosity, but they were gradually moved by their warm personalities and conscientious work. Bonds of affection grew between them. Some workers visited my parents often to help make rice wine and grind rice flour. The road along which my father went to the factory was in rather poor conditions. Once he slipped and fell. When the workers heard about this, they went to repair it on the quiet.

Work in the factory helped my parents improve their health. Direct contact with the workers helped them understand the social conditions of our people. They received their strongest consolation and support from their relationship with the workers. In their three years in Jiangxi, no matter whether it was fine or raining, bitter cold or scorching hot, they went to work every day.

Under the rules of their supervision, my parents could not leave their home without permission. Nor could they meet people other than those from the factory. But they lived an almost regular life despite the confines.

After working in the factory, and then the garden, all three had supper, tidied up, and then sat down to listen to the news over the radio. My grandmother did needlework and my parents read newspapers or the many books they

had been allowed to bring from Beijing. Father would read works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, ancient Chinese history and many other Chinese and foreign books, far into the night.

My father is an introvert and has few words. Half a century of revolutionary ordeal had made him fearless in the face of danger and humble in times of elation. He is rather philosophical on the question of personal fate. His optimism in times of adversity made him know how to substantiate himself with physical labour and reading, as the Jiangxi days showed.

In 1971 my parents applied for permission to bring my elder brother to Jiangxi. He had been a physics student at Beijing University, but had been expelled from the Party and then paralysed in an attack because my father was a "capitalist roader." He was living a miserable life in a welfare centre north of Beijing. When permission was granted, the three old people took tender care of him.

On November 5, 1971, we were told that Lin Biao had died. The political environment in my parents' home then took a turn for the better. Members of the new provincial Party committee came to visit, and the Party Central Committee agreed to let my elder brother receive proper medical treatment in Beijing.

At the end of April 1972, when I accompanied my elder brother back to Beijing, a friend told me that Comrade Wang Zhen, a Party Central Committee member, wanted to see me. I had never met him, but had often heard of this man whom we nicknamed "uncle with a beard."

When I arrived at his home, a thin old man rushed out to welcome me. He shook my hand and asked, "How is your father?" I could not hold back my tears. He

asked all about my family, and invited me to dinner and to stay the night. He also said I was to tell my father back in Jiangxi that he planned to write to Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee, asking them to let my father come back to Beijing and take up some leading post.

I was deeply moved, because nobody had treated me so warmly since the "cultural revolution" began. When I went back to Jiangxi and told my father, he felt the same way.

In the last days of 1972 arrangements were made for my parents to visit Jinggangshan, the cradle of the Chinese revolution, and Jingdezhen, a world-famous porcelain centre. Unfortunately, Lin Biao and his followers had tried to change it into a place for making amphibious personnel carriers, but only ended up ruining the factories.

The workers there greeted my father very warmly. They presented him with four specially-made vases, which he still keeps in his office today.

In February 1973 the Central Committee notified my father that he should return to Beijing. I came back with him and the family by train. More than three years before, when my parents and grandmother left the capital, they were three lonely old people. When they left Jiangxi, 10 members of our family had been reunited, spanning four generations.

While in Jiangxi, my father had formed a habit of taking a stroll everyday before sunset. Silent and deep in thought, he walked round and round in our little compound, day after day and year after year until finally he made a path on the red soil. Watching his sure but fast-moving steps, I thought to myself that his faith, his ideas and determination must have become clearer and firmer, readying him for the battles ahead.

The Liberation of China

Description on what China was liberated from and of the path it has followed since 1949, the year of liberation.

by SIDNEY SHAPIRO

IN celebrating the 35th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, it is useful to recall that 1949 was known as the year of liberation, and to think back on what China was liberated from.

My own memories of China under Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang are still quite sharp. I arrived in Shanghai on an American freighter on April 1, 1947 — April Fools Day. I often wondered thereafter whether I was not indeed a prime fool for plunging ignorantly into a land so strange and different from my own.

Everyone on the streets of Shanghai was in a great hurry, and there were tall buildings and buses and trolleys. That, at least, was like my native New York City.

But there the resemblance ended. Many people rode in pedicabs or rickshaws. The buses and trolleys seemed to be in a perpetual rush-

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Sidney Shapiro.

hour state. They were packed with people who, for the most part, managed to appear calm in spite of their obvious discomfort.

Beggars were everywhere, people in patched and tattered clothes, old folk, women with babies in arms, wide-eyed older children clutching the edges of their mothers' tunics. Most of them came from the impoverished countryside, and swarmed after the more smartly dressed, who occasionally tossed them a few coppers, or simply ignored them.

Affluence was also visible among the chosen few. Sleek limousines, horns insolently blaring, nosed relentlessly through narrow streets choked with pedestrians, carts, rickshaws, pedicabs and vehicles of every description. The refugees, not used to big city traffic, scattered wildly when automobiles bore down. But the blasé Shanghai natives stolidly proceeded

at their own pace until the creeping vehicles virtually pushed them out of the way.

The noise was incredible. Loudspeakers roared Chinese opera or whined saccharine love songs from innumerable store fronts in a wild effort to attract customers. Drivers used their horns instead of brakes. People had to shout to be heard above the din.

And of course there were the smells, so characteristic of the exotic colonial orient. Intermingled with the fumes of cars and buses was the odour of thousands of sweat-stained bodies, the fragrance of tidbits cooking in many street stalls to be eaten on the spot, and over all, when the wind was right, the smell of the "honey boats" — barges laden with human excrement being hauled to outlying farms for use as fertilizer. The sudden combination of these assaults on the senses was overwhelming.

A few days later I walked down the Bund towards Garden Bridge. The Bund, a broad thoroughfare along the Huangpu River, was fringed with old-fashioned granite edifices which housed many of the foreign companies extracting huge profits from modest investments. The Japanese, having lost the war, had been driven out. But the French still controlled the electricity supply and trolley lines, the British ran most of the shipping and banking, and American interests were expanding fast.

Most of Shanghai had been divided into Japanese, French and

British foreign concessions before World War II. In these concessions the foreigners levied taxes, had their own courts, their own police, and owned the public utilities. The Chinese had sovereignty in only one part of Shanghai — the section known as the "Chinese City." But even this was actually run by the Shanghai Municipal Council, on which the foreign representatives outnumbered the Chinese. There were similar foreign concessions in other major cities such as Tianjin and Hankou. After World War II the concessions were "surrendered" to China, but foreign powers continued to dominate.

I walked to Hongkou, part of the Japanese concession, had been the scene of heavy fighting during the war. Now the Japanese were gone, their buildings confiscated by the ruling Kuomintang party of Chiang Kai-shek, an inefficient gang of crooked politicians. The area was very run down. Whole streets were lined with saloons. There were many prostitutes, catering mainly to foreign sailors and merchant seamen.

Chiang Kai-shek, T.V. Soong, H.H. Kung and the Chen brothers — the "Big Four" — were the top dogs. Through various government banks and organizations, they owned or controlled the best land, skimmed the cream off the rural usury network, and had a tight grip on all industry and commerce. At the same time, for suitable cuts and bribes, they gave away rich plums to foreign investors. They fronted for dummy Chinese corporations actually owned by Europeans or Americans, or received large blocs of stock in foreign corporations which were then legally permitted to operate on Chinese soil. On behalf of the government they entered into treaties of the most servile nature with the imperialist powers.

In 1946 they signed an agreement with the United States called the "Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation" which allowed both countries to export their products without limit, tax free. Since Chinese industry was still in its infancy, it was promptly crushed by the deluge of technologically superior American goods.

The United States could sell cars and tractors in China. All the Chinese were capable of manufacturing then was bicycles and pedicabs. Not much market for those in America.

The Big Four didn't mind. They bathed in the stream of gold, from whichever direction it flowed. The only problem was that real business was practically dead. There were few real consumers. The handful who could afford cars already had several. Most of the population considered themselves lucky if they had enough to eat. I saw piles of trucks and tractors rusting on islands in the river. Brand new automobiles gathered dust in warehouses. A great deal of commerce consisted of paper speculations in warehouse receipts and bills of lading. That was about all that moved for domestic consumption via foreign trade.

But exports were a different matter. Silks, cotton goods, soybeans, tobacco, coal, tin, bristles and hog casings, were bled out of China smoothly and efficiently, at rock-bottom prices. Wages paid by foreign companies were delightfully low. "After all, the Chinese aren't like us. They can live on a bowl of rice a day!"

Unemployment was very high. There were no statistics. Many of the "employed" received such pitiful stipends that they were barely able to feed themselves.

Among the foreigners there was also some unemployment. Jewish refugees from Hitler's Germany, many of them distinguished scientists, doctors and professors, were living in fetid slums in Hongkou, waiting endlessly for visas to America. White Russians, who had fled the Bolshevik revolution and found their way to the big cities of China — Harbin, Tientsin, Shanghai — had long since reached the end of their money but had difficulty in finding work suitable to their gentlemanly background. Some of the ladies did better, and

US warships on the Huangpu River before liberation.





Nanjing Street in Shanghai before 1949.

were among the highest paid in their chosen profession.

Jobs for Anglo-Americans were no problem at all. Any idiot could earn 50 US dollars a week for doing next to nothing. At that salary he could have a nice flat, keep a servant who cooked delicious Chinese meals, and drive his own car. After all, it wouldn't do to have one of the supporters of the White Man's Burden panhandling in public.

While the Big Four and their coterie, the sycophants of the foreign exploiters, the warlords and their gangs, rolled in luxury and licentiousness, the majority of the Chinese struggled to survive. Eighty per cent of them were peasants, virtual serfs whose lives all followed the same dreadful pattern: A peasant would lease a field from a landlord, paying rent in kind ranging from 50 to 80 per cent of the harvest. He would need money for seed, or food grain to tide his family over until harvest time. The only place he could get it was from the village landlord (Larger communities might have two or three, but ordinarily one

big landlord controlled the entire village.) The landlord would make the loan to the tenant at a high rate of interest. At harvest time he would weigh the rent grain in his own measure boxes, which invariably were rigged to cheat the tenant. The amount the tenant would be "short of" would be added to his debt, also at compound interest. It was only a question of time until the tenant was so crushed he couldn't meet his payments. The landlord would then confiscate his property and kick him and his family off, or keep them on as semi-serfs. The tenants' wives and daughters were, of course, always fair game.

This had been the way of China's feudal economy for centuries, and it was bolstered by Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang and abetted by their imperialist partners. The landlords were, in fact, the backbone of the Kuomintang. They were the magistrates and local officials, they collected the taxes, they ran the police, and had private gangs of their own thugs. Their sons were officers in the army. It was commonplace for them to have

people brutally beaten or murdered.

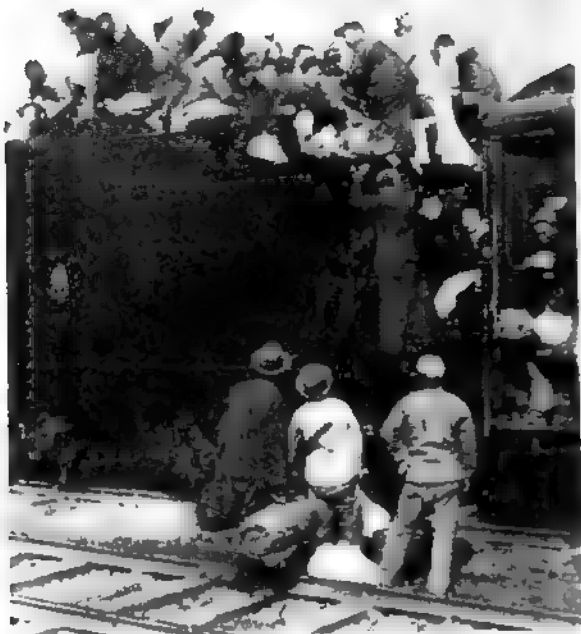
By the time I arrived in 1947 the rural economy was on the verge of collapse. Starving peasants wandered into the cities, begging, hopelessly seeking employment which didn't exist. Pale scrawny adolescent girls became prostitutes nobody wanted. In winter these poor people died like flies. Garbage trucks went around every morning to collect the frozen corpses off the sidewalks.

The old regime was dying, but it writhed desperately, striking out hysterically, viciously, at the mounting opposition. Students and intellectuals were arrested in the middle of the night, tortured, slaughtered. Sirens howled incessantly on police wagons racing through the streets of Shanghai.

In the end it was this very barbarous cruelty which brought the Kuomintang down, and drove out its foreign cronies. Whole divisions of Chiang Kai-shek's soldiers — themselves mostly boys from oppressed peasant families — came over to the side of the people's armies, bringing with them their American-supplied arms and equipment estimated to be worthy about US\$6 billion. The Communist-led Eighth Route Army jokingly called Chiang Kai-shek their "Quartermaster General." What was left of the Kuomintang forces were driven from the mainland. They scrambled to Taiwan, seizing control from the local people.

On October 1, 1949, the People's Republic of China was formally proclaimed. Although internally the fighting was over, a huge social and economic battle lay ahead to evolve a means of leading the country forward suited to China's specific conditions.

This difficult task was further complicated by the negative roles played by both the United States and the Soviet Union.



Before liberation, the train from Nanjing to Shanghai was always packed.

Against the advice of its diplomats and military leaders in China, Washington had refused to supply arms to the people's forces when they were fighting the Japanese. Instead, it gave them to the Kuomintang, whose attacks were directed mainly against the people. After liberation America stationed its Seventh Fleet in the Taiwan Straits to prevent the unification of the island with the mainland. It invaded Korea and later Viet Nam and pushed its forces towards China's borders. It fostered raids by Kuomintang saboteurs and airdropped its own spies into Chinese territory. It maintained an implacable hostility, refusing to trade with China, and pressuring its allies to do the same. Only in recent years have domestic and international realities compelled Washington to adopt a more friendly attitude.

The Soviet Union has also caused

China many hardships. When China was suffering a severe economic setback during the three bad years of 1959-1961, the Soviet Union refused to allow a single day's reprieve on China's debt, and insisted on repayment of every penny. Because Beijing insisted on full equality and independence in its relations with Moscow and would not agree to hand over control of an essential part of its military establishment, the Soviet Union in 1960 suddenly pulled out all of its experts and cancelled contracts on 156 projects involving scientific and technological co-operation. Today, in addition to stationing many divisions along the borders of China's Inner Mongolia and northeastern provinces, the Soviet Union has sent large numbers of troops to occupy Afghanistan, and has established military bases in Viet Nam, China's neighbours.

Domestically, too, China's path has been far from smooth. For centuries feudal tenure had strangled agriculture — the source of livelihood of the vast majority of the Chinese people. Landlords and rich peasants, constituting only 10 per cent of the population, owned 70 per cent of the arable land. Their exorbitant rents and usurious loans kept the bulk of the peasants in constant penury. Land reform in the early fifties brought about a fundamental change. Every villager — including the landlord — was given an equal share of the land. Usurious debts were cancelled. This was followed in later years by co-operative farming, and agricultural output rose steadily.

Industry and commerce, nearly defunct at the time of the establishment of the People's Republic, were nursed back to life by massive assistance provided by the new government. After a few years as partners of the state, private businesses were bought over, with their former owners kept on as high salaried executives and professionals.

There was a healthy flourishing of the arts. Millions of children were able to attend school, gains were scored in the natural and social sciences. Perhaps most important, the soaring spirits of the Chinese people manifested themselves in an unprecedented enthusiasm and confidence in their society and its leaders.

The picture was not, however, without flaws. Enthusiasm at times cast reason to the winds. The form most of the communes took, and their methods of distributing income, showed little regard for the realities of production. In industry wishful thinking occasionally taxed machinery beyond its physical capacity. The dead hand of the Confucian-feudal mentality inhibited progress in education and government administration.

Moreover, although China's lead-

ing political philosophers once agreed that the country's major internal contradictions lay in the imbalance between an advanced social system and relatively backward productive forces, later an incorrect theory gradually came to dominate. It said all of China's problems were due to a "class struggle." Anyone who denied this was a "class enemy," a "capitalist roadster." A wild anarchistic paroxysm known as the "cultural revolution" gripped China for 10 years, creating strife within the Communist Party and among the people, paralysing production, closing schools and research institutes, causing the persecution of thousands of China's finest citizens, elevating to positions of power many of the drags of society, and damaging China's prestige abroad.

Fortunately, the soundness of New China won through in the end. In 1976 the gang of four and the feudal-fascist forces they represented were overthrown, and order and sanity were restored. Clearly, it was time for a review of the path travelled thus far, as a basis for deriving new methods and setting new goals.

The major failing was found to be a slackening and, in a few cases, an abandonment of the fine principles and traditions of the Chinese Communist Party, which had enabled it to lead a billion people out of centuries of poverty and oppression in just a few decades. Wherever Party leaders had violated the principles of socialist democracy, opportunists and scoundrels had crept into positions of power. The consequences were at best bureaucracy and ineptness, at worst tyranny and corruption.

With the conclusion of the "cultural revolution," steps were taken to ensure that Party leaders were selflessly dedicated to the country and its people and constantly in touch with and responsive to their

needs and aspirations. At the same time, decision-making and relations within the Party were restored to a democratic foundation. Once this was done it became possible to tackle economic, governmental and social problems.

The economy had come a long way since the days of unemployment and starvation before the establishment of the People's Republic. Still, the rate of improvement should and could have been much faster. Chinese economists ascribed this to excessive governmental control, to treating the producers as mere appendages of the administrative bodies, and to a general lack of incentives and rewards.

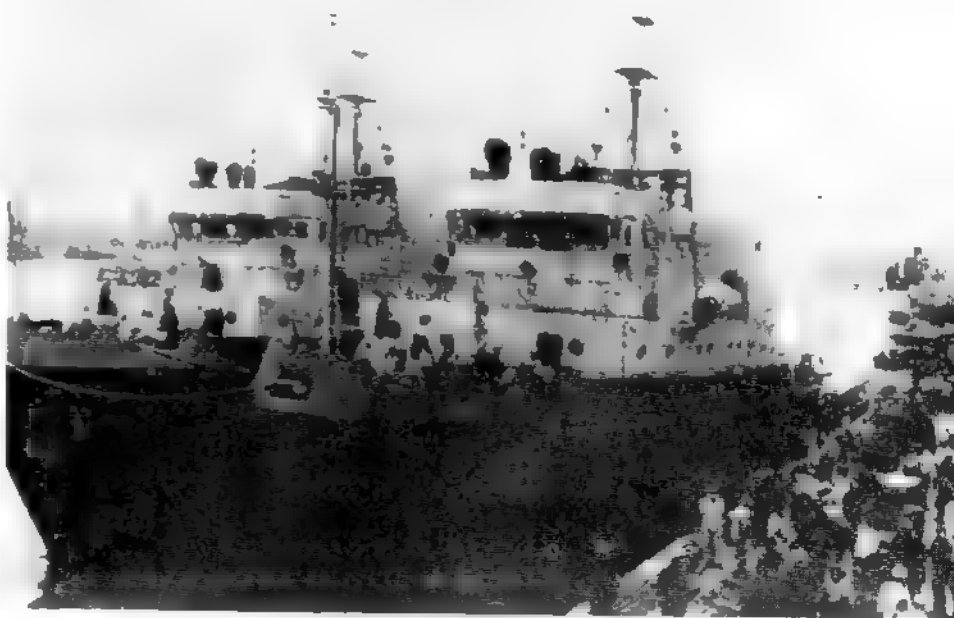
In 1979 a series of experiments was initiated in Anhui and Sichuan in agriculture, industry and commerce. These stimulated initiative and increased output so successfully that they spread to other provinces, where they were further de-

veloped and improved. Such methods are now being implemented nationwide.

On the farms, while the land is still owned collectively, individuals, households or groups enter into contracts with their villages or townships to deliver crops or other goods of a prescribed quantity and quality within a fixed time, for an agreed price. Anything in excess belongs to the producer, to consume or sell as he sees fit. Some households, also under contract, have become specialists in one endeavour or another. In this way more is produced more efficiently. The surplus labour freed from the fields, instead of gravitating to the cities as in the past, now remains to set up plants processing farm products or rural industries.

Commercial and industrial establishments in the cities and towns, whether state or collectively owned, have devised systems to grant bonuses and rewards. They can and do enter into combinations

Two offshore oil prospecting and recovery ships built for Singapore by the Hudong Shipyard. They are the first engineer vessels China exported.



with each other and with rural producers, often crossing county and provincial lines, to provide a maximum of service to state and private consumers.

Before any of this could happen, a conceptual logjam had to be broken. In the years when China was striving to build a socialist economic system, with its stress on collective endeavours and community good, a misconception gradually evolved in many places that any private enterprise was somehow improper and in conflict with public morality. This error was stretched to fanatic extremes during the "cultural revolution," and ordinary people were condemned for variations from the "rule."

Now that normalcy has returned, China is again following the fundamental socialist principle of "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work." Mindless egalitarianism, "iron rice bowls" whereby everyone receives the same compensation regardless of the quality and quantity of his contribution, are what is socially reprehensible today. Individual initiative, including private enter-

prise — so long as it remains within the overall dominant framework of the socialist economy and benefiting the general public — is not only permitted, but encouraged.

The results have been excellent. Family income on farms is the highest in Chinese history. The quality of rural life has much improved, stimulating the demand for industrial and consumer goods. Chinese industry, spurred in turn to increased and better output, is expanding and is thus able to pay higher wages and provide its workers with more amenities. Housing in town and country is booming, the stores are jammed with shoppers spending freely on what formerly were considered luxury goods. Foreign companies are competing to form joint ventures with Chinese firms, or to invest directly in China-based enterprises.

China is becoming a younger country. In a land where age was automatically equated with wisdom, while the talented elderly are still heeded and respected, able younger men and women are also being elevated to positions of leadership. The Chinese people

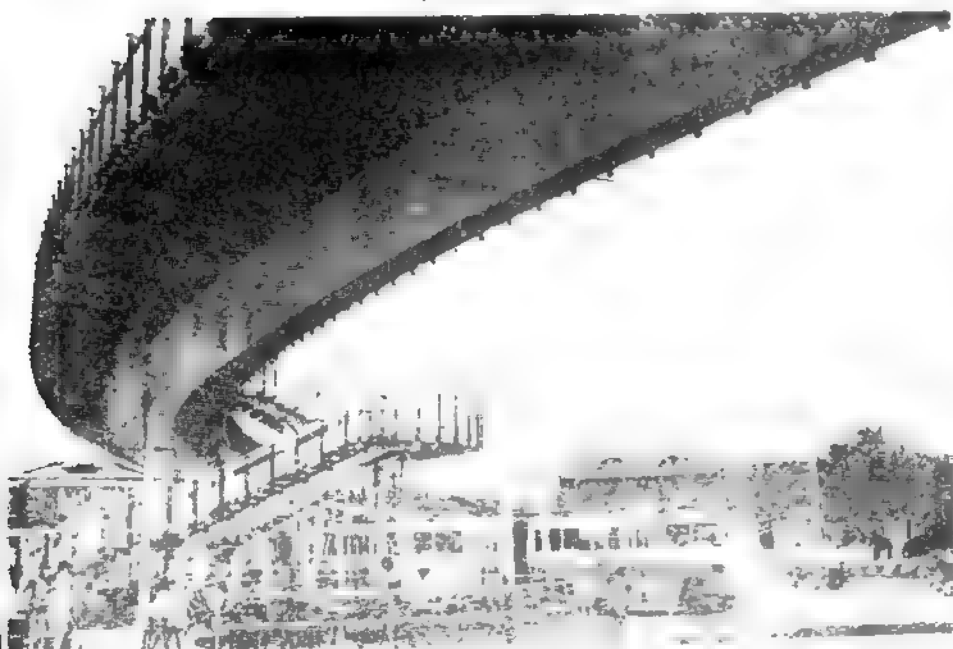
are living in a bolder, brighter, more outgoing world. It is reflected in their burgeoning cultural fare, the open discussion of social problems on the stage and screen, in the lively new television plays, in the free-swinging letters-to-the-editors and articles carried in all major newspapers, voicing criticisms and asking pointed questions. China today has a level of democracy matched by few countries.

Reactions of foreign visitors afford interesting insights. Many are impressed by, and a little envious of, the loving family care lavished on the aged, children who manage to be courteous while bursting with health and energy, the almost universal safety of person and possessions at any hour of the day or night, the intense quest for knowledge, the friendliness to visitors from abroad, the well-stocked shops, the increase in smart colourful dress, the delicious low-cost food.

Of course China still has plenty of problems. The Communist Party is in the process of a thorough revitalization. Creaky governmental bureaucracy, backward education and antiquated business management are under heavy fire. It is not easy to undo 2,000 years of fusty feudal concepts while building a modern new society and to learn advanced techniques and methods from developed countries while fending off the noxious influences emanating from their life-style.

But from all we have seen in the past 35 years, and certainly during the last five, we have every reason to be optimistic. Although the road at times has been bumpy, beyond doubt China has evolved its own suitable Chinese socialist system. I am convinced that before the century is out China will narrow the technological gap and will take its place, if not abreast, then hot on the heels of the world's front-

A new 130-metre-long overpass for pedestrians in the Xujiahui District of Shanghai.



China's Acupuncture and Moxibustion

by **LING YANG**
Our Correspondent

ACUPUNCTURE and moxibustion are widely used in China to relieve pain and treat diseases. They can not only cure some chronic diseases, but also some acute ones such as appendicitis and dysentery. They can also help regulate the functions of the organs, resist inflammation and fever, promote recovery and increase immunity. Recent research has begun to establish a firm biological base for the effectiveness of these two treatments, and they have become an indispensable part of traditional Chinese medicine.

According to traditional Chinese theory, channels of energy run through the human body. Along these channels are more than points which, when stimulated, will effect a specific part of the body. Acupuncture stimulates these points by pricking them with a metal needle. Moxibustion uses heat on the skin's surface.

In the 35 years since the founding of New China, many doctors have devoted themselves to research on acupuncture and moxibustion, seeking the most effective ways to apply these ancient treatments. While the traditional methods are still used, new techniques have also been discovered.

One of them is electrical stimulation. A weak electric current runs through the acupuncture needle. Doctors can treat more than 100 diseases this way, varying the current appropriately.

Point injection therapy injects a small dose of drugs into the point

using the acupuncture needle. The drugs currently used are medicinal herbs, vitamins, sedatives, various tissue fluids and medicines which promote metabolism such as ATP. An injection of 1-5 mg of pethidine, an analgesic, in certain points may offer the same therapeutic effects as an intramuscular injection of 100 mg.

Point laser stimulation treats diseases by concentrating a laser on certain points. This therapy is used particularly to increase immunity.

Point magnetic therapy combines acupuncture and magnetic treatment. It can be used to treat sprains and bruises, strain of the lumbar muscles, rheumatic and rheumatoid arthritis and high blood pressure.

Ear acupuncture draws on the traditional Chinese medicine theory that any physiological and pathological change of the viscera can be felt in certain parts of the ear. Therefore, stimulating certain points on the ear can cure some

diseases. There are more than 200 points on the ears, which can be used to treat 200 diseases. So far, 40 of these points have proved to be very effective. Ear acupuncture is also used for diagnosis and anaesthesia.

There are many ear acupuncture methods, including electrical stimulation, point injection, magnetic therapy, ion penetration and moxibustion, and leaving small needles in the ears for days, or even weeks.

Head, and wrist and ankle acupuncture all concentrate on the points on specific parts of the body. This therapy, like ear acupuncture, has developed its own system for preventing and treating diseases.

Moxibustion, like acupuncture, is frequently used in the clinic. Heat is applied by igniting moxa leaves over points on the skin's surface. Modern science has proved that moxa leaves contain volatile oil, and burning them can eliminate pathogenic strain or hinder its breeding.

A Chinese teacher (second from right) and his foreign students.



For your reference

Ancient History of Acupuncture and Moxibustion

Archaeological finds and classical medical literature all testify that acupuncture and moxibustion originated in primitive China

According to the history book *Lu Shi* written in the 12th century, during the very early clan commune society in ancient China, tribal leader Tai Hao-Fu Xi "tasted various kinds of medicinal herbs in order to know their effects, and made stone needles to cure the diseases of the populace. In the preface to the 11th-century *A New Collection of Major Prescriptions for Emergencies* is recorded the story of Huang Di—ancestor of the Chinese nation—who, "in his desire to create nine different acupuncture instruments... got a good physician, Qi Bo, and thus made the excellent techniques of acupuncture and moxibustion available."

In inscriptions on oracle bones, tortoise shells and ancient bronze objects dating from the 13th to 8th centuries B.C., pictographs for acupuncture and for moxibustion have been found

According to early literature, the first acupuncture needles were made of stone. The *bian* stone (a sharp stone for medical use) unearthed from the New Stone Age

site in Daolun, Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region in 1963 is the earliest *bian* stone discovered so far. These stones were used to cut sores and ulcers and for acupuncture

A bronze needle more than 2,000 years old discovered in Dalad, Inner Mongolia, in 1978 and the four gold needles and five broken silver needles of similar age unearthed in Mancheng, Hebei Province in 1968, show how medicine benefited from the development of China's metallurgical techniques.

In *Huang Di Nei Jing* (*The Yellow Emperor's Manual of Internal Medicine*), the earliest Chinese medical classic compiled during fifth to first centuries B.C., it is said that using the *bian* stone to cure diseases originated among the fishermen along China's east coast. The second century carved stones found in recent years include pictures on treating diseases with stone needles. The evidence of these historical relics agree with the written records. *Huang Di Nei Jing* collected these ancient records and considered acupuncture and moxibustion as China's major medical treatment techniques. This established the basic theories for

traditional Chinese medicine which are still being used today.

Two books on the theory of *jing mai* (passages through which vital energy circulates and along which the acupuncture points are distributed) unearthed in 1973 at Ma-Wangdui, on the outskirts of Changsha, recorded the early discoveries and achievements in this area

The 12-volume *Classic of Acupuncture and Moxibustion* compiled by noted physician Huangfu Shi in the third century collected 128 articles dealing with the theory and the techniques of diagnosis and treatment by acupuncture and moxibustion and the 349 acupuncture points. It is China's first book specializing in acupuncture and moxibustion which describes a comparatively complete system.

Acupuncture and moxibustion became specialties in the Tang Dynasty (618-907), when the titles "acupuncture master" and "moxibustion master" appeared. The Imperial Physician's Bureau of the Tang court took charge of training medical and pharmaceutical students in its pharmacology and four medical specialties. Acupuncture and moxibustion were one of the medical subjects. According to the *History of the Tang Dynasty*, the acupuncture and moxibustion department had one professor, one tutor, 10 masters, 20 practitioners and 20 students.

Sometimes moxibustion is applied together with garlic, ginger, herbal drugs or salt, or with needles wrapped in moxa wool (made of the leaves), thus having the effects of both moxibustion and acupuncture.

Acupuncture Anaesthesia

Knowing that acupuncture serves to relieve pain and regulate

the organs in the 1950s, doctors of traditional Chinese medicine began to study whether it could be an effective anaesthetic. They succeeded in removing tonsils and parts of a lung by carefully stimulating the points, diverse manipulation, and leaving the needles in the body longer. Later, with experiences accumulated, fewer points are used.

After almost three decades of

trial and error, acupuncture anaesthesia, a combination of Chinese and Western medicine, was made public in the 1970s with the approval of the State Council for relieving pain and regulating the physiological functions of the human body

Rich experience has been accumulated in applying acupuncture anaesthesia. Many hospitals find it is preferable for some opera-

tions. For instance, a study of 13,314 thyroid gland operations showed that acupuncture anaesthesia has several advantages. Because the patient is alert and able to communicate with the surgeons, possible injury to the laryngeal nerve can be avoided. And because the painkilling effects of acupuncture anaesthesia can last quite a long time, the patient regains his appetite and can walk around soon after the operation. This produces fewer side-effects and aids in recovery. In a study of 4,827 operations within the skull, about half the patients remained quiet and comfortable during the surgery.

During a period of a decade or so a Beijing hospital operated on the vertebra in the necks of 600 patients, 280 of whom had various degrees of cardiovascular disease and 152 of whom showed abnormal heart rhythms. All of them were comfortable during the operation, with no danger from the side-effects of powerful drugs. Moreover, they recovered quicker, suffered less local pain and had fewer complications than patients who had received drugs.

A ten-year study by a Wuhan hospital indicates that acupuncture anaesthesia is convenient, safe, and leaves less post-operative pain after tooth extractions. Most patients need not take any sedatives.

Acupuncture anaesthesia has also proved to be effective for caesarean sections. It is used frequently in the Beijing Gynaecology and Obstetrics hospital, which is now exploring what effect the acupuncture has on the mother's immunity and the child's respiration.

But despite these advantages, the success of acupuncture anaesthesia has not been universal. Doctors are working hard to make it more effective.

Since acupuncture anaesthesia has different effects on different patients, pre-operation evaluation

is very important. Many hospitals are trying to establish standard physiological, biological and psychological parameters which will predict how a patient will react. So far, pre-operation forecasting is 80 per cent accurate.

For those patients whose pre-operation parameters are not favourable or for those major operations which might be very hard on patients, research is being done on combining acupuncture anaesthesia with some anaesthetic drugs.

Research is also being done to find the most effective analgesic points and acupuncture methods, so as to achieve the optional painkilling effect.

Efforts are being made to improve surgical skills, medical apparatus and instruments, which may be of great help in increasing the effectiveness of acupuncture anaesthesia. Recently, laser beams have been used in place of acupuncture needles.

Overall, experimental clinical studies show that acupuncture anaesthesia promotes post-operation recovery and is generally safer for patients with cardiovascular disease than anaesthetic drugs.

Channels and Collaterals

Pricking or heating certain points on the body has been proved to produce an effect upon certain organs or parts of the body. There are two theories as to why this happens. Modern physiology suggests that stimulation is through the nervous system. Traditional Chinese medicine holds that it is through channels and collaterals. Both theories have made new discoveries in recent years.

According to traditional Chinese medicine, channels and collaterals are passages through which *qi* (vital energy) circulates. They connect all the organs inside the

body and extend to the surface, where the acupuncture points are distributed. Pricking or heating these points will produce a reaction along the channels and collaterals.

As early as the 1950s, doctors of traditional Chinese medicine began searching for biological evidence of channels and collaterals, but so far nothing substantial has been discovered. Some doctors have inferred from this that channels and collaterals are unique to the human body.

Since the 1970s, much research has been done on stimulation along the channel pathways. Results show that the pathways in the arms and legs basically conform to the ancient diagram, the pathways in the chest and abdomen conform less closely, and the pathways in the face and head do not conform at all. On the basis of this study, a new 14-channel diagram has been drawn up.

Whatever the actual path of these channels, repeated studies have proved that stimulation along them does exist, and is consistent. It has also been proved that this stimulation can alter the workings of the viscera, speeding or slowing their functions. When the stimulation ceases, so does its effects. At present, doctors of traditional Chinese medicine have developed several effective methods to increase this stimulation, thus "sending the *qi* to the affected area," in the words of the acupuncture and moxibustion classic, and improving the effects of the treatment.

Many doctors and scientists are now studying what these channels really are. A professor in east China believes there are four equilibrium systems in the human body, which interact and correlate with each other. The four systems, their functions and speeds are as follows:

Academic and Training Centres

* The Beijing Institute of Acupuncture and Moxibustion is one of the 11 academic institutes under the Research Institute of Traditional Chinese Medicine. It is divided into about a dozen research departments studying the treatment of cardiovascular diseases, diseases of the nervous and digestive systems, the clinical effects of acupuncture and moxibustion techniques, the theory and practice of physiology, biochemistry, morphology and the doctrine of the meridians. It also collects and studies information at home and abroad, and puts out a bimonthly, *Chinese Acupuncture and Moxibustion*, and other publications.

* Each province, municipality

and autonomous region has its own acupuncture research organization. Each hospital, from those at the central level down to the grass-roots, has its own acupuncture department, which also does research stemming from its clinical practice

* The Chinese Society of Acupuncture and Moxibustion is a national academic organization. It sponsored national seminars in 1979 and 1984, which included participation by foreign scholars. Its members have read papers at world conferences on acupuncture and other international academic meetings

* Apart from acupuncture and

moxibustion courses in medical colleges, eight institutes of traditional Chinese medicine in China have acupuncture department. The complete course takes five years. In addition, a medical college for acupuncture and moxibustion with an affiliated hospital is being planned. The institutes of acupuncture and moxibustion in Beijing and Shanghai, some big hospitals and institutes of traditional Chinese medicine have begun to enrol students for master's and doctorate degrees

* Entrusted by the World Health Organization of the United Nations, China has run an international training course for acupuncture and moxibustion since 1975, which has so far enrolled about 800 students from 170 countries and regions.

Equilibrium system	speed	function
Exterior nerves	100 metres second	to balance posture
Vegetative nerves	1 metre second	to balance the viscera
Channels and collaterals	0.1 metre second	for balance between exterior and interior
Internal secretions	in minute (dispersion)	slow equilibrium of the whole body

A paper on acupuncture and moxibustion, based on clinical experience and laboratory experiments, says that channels and collaterals are pathways through which stimulation from the body's surface will influence the activities of the viscera. They possess "a special holographic nature of adjusting the body as a whole from certain areas of the body."

Controlling Pain Message

As has already been discussed, acupuncture can relieve pain. Some nerve specialists believe this

is accomplished through the central nervous system. However, clinical practice and laboratory studies have led some scientists to believe that acupuncture may produce a substance within the body which can inhibit the transmission of pain messages.

In 1972, a Beijing scientist discovered that the cerebrospinal fluid of rabbits treated with acupuncture anaesthesia could produce a natural painkiller. He injected the fluid from a treated rabbit into the brain of an untreated rabbit, and found that the latter

had an increased resistance to pain.

Later research has confirmed that acupuncture can stimulate nerve cells to produce natural opiates. However, over-stimulation will cause them to produce anti-opiates. The amount of time the needles remain in the body is therefore vitally important. If it is too long, the body will develop a resistance to the analgesic effect. Acupuncture anaesthesia can even be counter-productive in some circumstances.

All these new developments in acupuncture research have put acupuncture therapy, which has a history of 2,500 years, on a solid scientific foundation. Now, nerve and physiological specialists are devoting their efforts to studying different acupuncture manipulations and their effects and to improving the curative effects of acupuncture for each individual patient, no matter how different the reactions. □

Effectiveness of a Traditional Therapy

by **WANG XUETAI**
and **LIANG QINGJUN**

THE last 35 years have seen the publication in China of more than 10,000 papers on acupuncture and moxibustion, two forms of traditional medicine originating in China. Of the two, acupuncture—the application of long needles to designated points of the body, “acupoints” as they are called, to alleviate particular ailments—is the more familiar to most people. Lesser known is moxibustion, which involves the application of moxa leaves to the acupoints to bring about relief from an ailment. Both treatments may be used in combination (“acumoxibustion”).

Eight thousand of the papers are clinical reports, the rest, studies of the principles, history and therapeutic application of acupuncture and moxibustion. These papers report that to varying degrees acupuncture and moxibustion are effective in treating more than 300 diseases and ailments and especially effective for 100 or more. Acupuncture and moxibustion have also been used as preventative medicine and as diagnostic tools. The following, gleaned from these reports, is a summary of the effectiveness of acupuncture and moxibustion in treating various categories of illnesses.

Infectious disease. Statistics from 35 papers on the treatment of acute infectious hepatitis by

Wang Xuetai is vice-president of the All-China Society of Acupuncture and Moxibustion and Liang Qingjun, an editor of the national magazine *Zhongguo Zuzhi* (Traditional Chinese Medicine)

acupuncture indicate that 85 per cent of those treated were cured. Generally, two acupoints were chosen and stimulated vigorously one or two times daily. Most of the symptoms disappeared within 10 days, and the standard hepatitis test (GPT) turned normal within a month. Children usually recovered sooner than adults. Of the 200 cases followed up for a period from three months to two years, no relapses were reported. Acupuncture is also effective in treating other types of hepatitis. But the relapse rate is rather high.

In cases of influenza, fever usually disappeared within six to eight hours after acupuncture treatment and other manifestations within 12 hours. In areas of influenza epidemics, acupuncture had a preventative effect on uninfected people.

A number of reports dealt with the clinical effects and therapeutic mechanism of acupuncture in cases of acute bacillary dysentery. The results were remarkable. For instance, in 645 cases in which tests revealed dysentery culture in the stools, 92 per cent were cured with acupuncture. Major symptoms disappeared within two days, and negative stool culture tests were reported within an average of five days. Only 33 of the 268 cases followed up had relapses.

Similar results turned up in an experiment carried out on 113 Rhesus monkeys. All the monkeys were fed dysentery bacilli to create medical models not unlike humans. Then one group was treated with acupuncture while the other received no treatment at all. The stool culture in the

treated monkeys began to disappear within five days and was completely gone in nine days. In the untreated group, only 40 per cent had bacilli-free stools by the 15th day.

The therapeutic results of acumoxibustion on whooping cough, meningitis, mumps, encephalitis, measles, scarlet fever and tuberculosis were also satisfactory.

Therapeutic results in treating leptospirosis, an animal disease that sometimes infects humans, were obtained by injecting a tenth of a dosage of penicillin in acupoints, together with simple needling.

Miscellaneous. Acupuncture increases the white blood cells in patients suffering from leukopenia as a result of radiation therapy. It also steadies the digestive and nervous systems so that a cancer patient may complete his therapeutic courses.

Acu-moxibustion has been used successfully to treat tobacco addiction and allergies. A survey has also revealed that acupuncture can help people to quit smoking, with 80 per cent of cases treated. To find out if psychological factors played a significant part, a “double blind” test was constructed in which half the people given acupuncture were told to actively try and stop smoking and the other half were not informed that this was the purpose of the treatment. Statistically there was next to no difference in the success rates of the two groups.

A study on food poisoning caused by bacteria (*vibriopara hemolyticus*) in seafood reported that 725 out of 752 cases were

cured within two hours by a single session of acupuncture.

Acu-moxibustion is also effective in alleviating the high body temperatures and rapid, spasmodic heartbeat in case of heat stroke. It has also been applied in the treatment of frostbite with satisfactory results. Selecting and stimulating acupoints according to the theory of channels is good for stopping swelling, eliminating redness, relieving pain and healing ulcers.

Respiratory and cardiovascular ailments. Some 18,400 cases of chronic bronchitis and asthma have been treated with acu-moxibustion since 1971. The rate of cure is from 70 to 97 per cent. The best results are obtained in patients who have not been ill long and with mild, uncomplicated manifestations and strong constitutions. Treatment at certain acupoints did have an anti-asthmatic effect and improved the breathing immediately. However, there is a lack of long-term observations of the therapeutic effect.

In recent years, respiratory failure has been treated by electro-acupuncture. A report on 60 cases revealed an improvement in the frequency, rhythm and action of breathing. Nevertheless, acupuncture is ineffective for weak patients with severe lung damage and in cases of spontaneous cessation of breathing.

Acupuncture is good for improving the flow of blood, too. A number of studies have shown that blood pressure generally increases half an hour after needling.

Studies on heart disease have indicated that acupuncture had some effect in 66 to 98 per cent of the cases examined. Only in 25 to 75 per cent of the cases, however, were there a marked effect.

Observations of about 600 angina cases in Beijing showed acu-

puncture was effective in 89.2 per cent. Recent experiments indicate that acupuncture at certain points helps in the repair of heart tissue damaged by a localized shortage of blood (ischemia). Acupuncture has even been applied, under close observation, in cases of severe heart attacks with satisfactory results. Research in this area is still going on.

Acu-moxibustion can also either raise or lower blood pressure in case of low and high blood pressure.

Ailments of the digestive system. The immediate effect of acupuncture upon peptic ulcers is quite satisfactory. The relapse rate, however, is quite high, papers on gastropexy (an abnormal sagging of the stomach into the lower abdomen) reveal that acupuncture has an immediate effect on elevating the lower border of stomach as is seen under a fluoroscope. It strengthens the tension of the stomach by 20 to 35 per cent. Of 11 cases followed up for five years, only five had slight relapses.

For acute gastroenteritis (inflamed stomach and intestines,) acupuncture acts quickly to reduce diarrhea, vomiting and pain. A report on 87 cases indicates that one or two sessions can remove the disease. When treating diseases of the stomach and intestines with acupuncture, it is best to combine it with X-rays in diagnosing the ailments.

Diseases of the urinary, reproductive and endocrine systems. It is reported that acupuncture can eliminate urinary stones, in 40 per cent of the cases. For acute inflammation of the testicles and related ducts, acu-moxibustion yields good results; a five-session course is enough. For male sterility and sexual disturbance, acu-moxibustion sometimes gives very satisfactory results.

Acu-moxibustion can also affect, to various degrees, thyroid

conditions, diabetes and menopausal conditions.

Nervous and psychological ailments. It is universally accepted that acupuncture has an analgesic (painkilling) effect on neuralgia (severe, spasmodic pain in one or more nerves). A report of 1,000 cases of neuralgia in the brain (primary trigeminal) reveals that acupuncture had an analgesic effect in 54 per cent of them. Of the 540 cases observed for six months to five years, the neuralgia returned in 213 cases. The pain, however, could still be controlled by acupuncture. The cure rate for paralysis in the edge of the face treated by acu-moxibustion is about 80 per cent.

Recent observations of the therapeutic effect of acupuncture on urine incontinence due to spinal bifida (a congenital spine defect) in the lower back reveals that of 500 cases treated with acupuncture once a day for 50-60 sessions, 97 showed good or excellent results. Of 234 cases in which acupuncture is used, the treatment remained effective in 91 cases after one to three years, less effective in 70 cases and ineffective in 67 cases (six patients died during that time).

Acupuncture has been somewhat effective in helping victims of strokes (cerebral thrombosis) to convalesce. After a general course of one month, there was an improvement in 20 to 30 per cent of the patients. Better results were achieved when the patient was young and his condition is not so serious and without complications. In paralytic patients acupuncture increases the blood flow in the brain and decreases peripheral resistance.

Acu-moxibustion is also widely applied to nervous and psychological ailments. Many reports show satisfactory results in treating lower back pain (sciatica), hys-

teric paralysis, loss of voice (hysterical aphonia), schizophrenia, epilepsy, neurosis, spasms (chorea), water on the brain (hydrocephalus), feeble-mindedness and incomplete paraplegia

Surgical disease. Acu-moxibustion's efficacy in fighting infection and reducing inflammation has been proved both in experiments and clinically. In 10,000 cases of acute perforation in gastric and duodenal ulcers, acu-moxibustion is immediately effective in 60 to 70 per cent of them. Twenty-six cases out of 41 reveal that after one or two sessions of needling (once every four hours), abdominal pain is markedly relieved, ten-

derness becomes localized, the abdomen soft, there is a return to gentle involuntary intestinal contractions (peristalsis), and the perforation is healing. Experiments on rabbits show that acupuncture helps to heal lesions and strengthens the defensive metabolic function of anti-inflammation.

Acu-moxibustion relieves intestinal intussusception (the intestine folding in on itself), volvulus (a twisted intestine), perforation of the appendix by worms, congenital malformation and acute obstruction of intestines (excluding that caused by tumours). Of 1,426 adult cases of acute appendicitis in Shanghai, 84 per cent

were cured, while out of 110 children's cases 66 per cent were successful. However, the rate of relapse is rather high. In a report of 174 cured cases, follow-up examinations after five years revealed that 65 cases had symptoms of mild chronic appendicitis and 57 cases had acute symptoms

For stones in the bile ducts clinical and experimental studies indicate that acupuncture can alleviate or relieve pain, especially in acute attacks, though its mechanism is still unknown. In a group of some 500 cases treated by acupuncture plus oral administration of epsom salts, stones were

Left Acupuncture treatment for facial paralysis.

Right A 12-channel diagram, as described in the earliest Chinese medical classic "Nei Jing," (Manual of Internal Medicine).



eliminated in 78 per cent, whereas in another group of some 70 cases with acute seizure treated with epsom salts alone, the stones were eliminated in only 27 per cent. Though the rate of evacuation of stones by acupuncture treatment is not high—only 23 out of 61 cases evacuated all their stones, once the major stone or stones responsible had been expelled, the manifestations of colic pain, fever and jaundice immediately alleviated. Operations were thus avoided or postponed until conditions permitted and the rate of mortality was lowered. In many hospitals acupuncture has become the first choice of routine therapeutic measures.

In the surgical field, acupuncture is used to cure such diseases as sangoma, inflammation of the lymph glands (cervical tuberculous lymphadenitis), worms, piles and cysts.

Bone and skin ailments. Acupuncture reduces the pain and swelling of sprains and bruises. Again, there are reports of acupuncture curing elbow stiffness, slipped disc and traumatic paraplegia. Improvements in bone healing have also been observed.

Acu-moxibustion can also help in skin diseases, for instance, reducing pain in shingles with no aftereffects. Although there is a 33 per cent cure rate in the treatment of neurodermatitis (a chronic allergic itching), the long-term effects are negligible, with a high rate of recurrence.

Gynaecological and childhood diseases. For acute and chronic pelvic and cervical erosion, not a few cases are cured or alleviated by acu-moxibustion, injections at acupoints and ion penetration methods. Menstrual cramps, which often afflict young women, can be stopped by acupuncture with satisfactory long-term effects.

For profuse bleeding during menstrual period (menorrhagia

and functional metrorrhagia), stimulating the lower back with thick needles two days after menstruation once a month for three months or longer is effective in about 60 per cent of cases treated.

To prevent abnormal fetus position, two to four sessions of moxibustion yield satisfactory effects if the woman is eight months pregnant and there is optimum tension of the abdominal wall. In contrast, if the woman is more than eight months pregnant and has a too tense or too loose abdominal wall, the treatment will be unsatisfactory or even ineffective. The effect of acupuncture in inducing labour is also certain.

For galactosemia (galactose in the blood of infants) and insufficient milk production, more than 80 per cent patients were brought to a normal condition after one to four sessions of acupuncture therapy, increasing the lactogenic hormone in the blood.

For treating the aftereffects of polio, the rate of effectiveness of acu-moxibustion is 20 to 30 per cent. Of 101 children treated with a course lasting two to 14 years, 19 were basically cured. It is generally held that patients with better constitutions and muscle tonicity and afflicted with the disease for only a short time will have better results.

The effects of acupuncture on bedwetting by children are fairly good. Of 230 cases treated in Tunisia by a Chinese medical team, acupuncture was effective in 92 cases, ineffective in 31 cases and alleviated the condition to various degrees in 107 cases. Of 51 cases followed up after one year, there were recurrences or accidental bedwetting in 36. Children's simple indigestion can be treated effectively by acu-moxibustion.

Diseases of the sensory organs. Acupuncture is excellent for alle-

viating sensitivity to electric light (electric ophthalmia). Pseudomyopia, strabismus, paralysis of ocular muscles and optic atrophy are all reported to have been treated with acu-moxibustion.

Acupuncture is effective in increasing hearing in deafmutism and deafness. After undergoing electric needling, 36 per cent had their hearing improved by more than 10 decibels. However, not a few patients' hearing worsened again after treatment. It has been recognized that better results occur in treating sudden deafness, traumatic deafness and senile deafness, whereas in those cases, such as the aftereffects of a long-lasting fever, treatment is less effective. It is totally ineffective in cases in which the inner ear is not functioning and there is a complete loss of hearing.

Most common cold were eased and inflamed nostril membranes showed a remarkable decrease in swelling and better ventilation after acupuncture therapy. Acu-moxibustion yields excellent results in acute tonsillitis.

For acute inflammation of the mouth stomatitis, acu-moxibustion reduces the inflammation and pain.

Acu-moxibustion is also effective in treating acute inflammation of the sinuses, strained voices (common in actors and singers), larynged obstruction, acute sore throat, nosebleeds, acute gum disease, inflamed tongue and stuttering. □



Peasants Take to Household Industry

from "SHEHUI KEXUE"
(Social Sciences)

THE renowned scientist Qian Weichang writes that family-based production is the trend in China today, in accordance with the demands of the social development. Following the road of improvement, peasants are manufacturing machine parts of all sizes for urban factories, a trend that is gradually reducing the distinction between the cities and the countryside.

"Not long ago I visited a town in Nantong County in Jiangsu province," said Qian. "Every family there, at its own expense, has bought a lathe for about 2,000 yuan to manufacture parts for buyers in Shanghai in accordance with piece-rate contracts. Every family member can work on the machine after they have learnt the techniques from masters, who deliver skills to their doorsteps

almost immediately. Similar modes of production have also appeared in Changshu."

"People speak highly of Shanghai fashions, but many dresses are not made in Shanghai," said Qian. "Most of them are made in Changshu based on patterns."

"Last year I toured some production brigades in nine counties in Jiangsu," he said. "Labourers there had already become both peasants and workers. Each family had at least one worker. Some of them worked at home, and the others worked at little workshops set up by themselves. In my opinion, Shanghai does not have to build any more factories in the next few years—assembly shops will be sufficient. The other stages of production can be done in the countryside."

"Thus, peasants' incomes are increasing and they have more money to develop production. The

brigades in these nine counties are now well off. Peasants are spending money on walking tractors, good strains of seeds and chemical fertilizer to expand production and on building new houses."

Insects Create Social Dilemma

from "RENMIN RIBAO"
(People's Daily)

LATE in May, Xie Youying's wheat crop was coming along well when it was heavily infested by insects. The Jiangsu peasant faced a dilemma. Her fields lay directly southeast to neighbour Xu Yingfang's silkworm shed and as long as the wind blew in that direction she would kill the silkworms if she sprayed insecticide. But her own crops would suffer if she didn't spray.

Xie finally chose not to spray. The wind kept blowing out of the southeast for three days.

On the fourth night, when Xu rose to tend her silkworms, she heard the whirring of machinery outside. Xie was spraying insecticide. The wind has changed direction in the middle of the night. "Let me help you," she said.

"No, you can't touch the equipment at all," said Xie. "Even a little insecticide on your hands would kill the silkworms."

Despite the difficulties of spraying insecticide at night, Xie managed to control the infestation. The next morning, she sprayed again, wiping out all the insects.

So the crisis had a happy ending. Xie reported a bumper harvest and Xu's silkworms spun their cocoons.

Henan peasant Shi Qingfu (left) processing rubber tyres in his own workshop for a big factory.



China's Intellectual Structure Studied

from "BAIKE ZHISHI"
(Encyclopedic Knowledge)

MODERN society is characterized by the "knowledge explosion" and exploitation of this knowledge is a major step towards modernization. The intellectual climate is a basic condition of a country.

According to the 1982 census, 6.02 million Chinese, or 0.6 per cent of the total population, are college graduates and those now in universities and colleges — or 1 per cent of the over-25 segment of the population. This percentage is low as compared with other countries.

The structure of the intellectual population bulges in the middle. The older intellectuals — those who graduated before liberation — make up only 10 per cent of the

total. Studies on how to bring the abilities and intelligence of the older intellectuals into full play in the remaining years of their lives are urgently needed. Those from 35 to 49 years old make up about 50 per cent, and young people make up the rest. And when a new policy for intellectuals is formulated it should proceed from the long-term interests of the educated middle-aged.

Intellectuals in China mainly work as teachers, doctors, scientists, engineers, technicians, agro-technicians and leaders. In developed countries, these professions are all manned by intellectuals, but in China they only constitute about a third. For example, there are only three college graduated agro-technicians per 10,000 people who are engaged in agriculture, compared with an international average 50 per 10,000.

Heroic Girl Cited by Youth League

from "GUANGMING RIBAO"
(Guangming Daily)

THE Chinese Communist Youth League has posthumously conferred an award for bravery on a 12-year-old Jiangsu girl who died saving an elderly woman from a falling roof.

Han Yujuan of Suqian County was staying with Fu Wangshi, 74, on August 14, 1983, when the roof, weakened by heavy rains, caved in. Han pushed the old woman into the corner but was not quick enough to escape disaster herself and was crushed to death.

The Youth League, in naming Han a "Hero Who Sacrificed Himself to Save Another," called on youths and children to learn from this exemplary child, who besides doing exceedingly well at her stud-

ies in Tanghu primary school, was a great help in the village.

Han's greatest good deed was to look after her elderly neighbour Fu. When she saw Fu was weak and moved only with difficulty, she helped her husk rice, mill flour and cook. In spring, she helped her take care of clothes; in summer, she carried warm water to bathe her; in autumn, she carried Fu's store of grain and vegetables from the brigade and in winter, she sent her charcoal. Whenever a new film was shown, Han always helped her to see it, supporting her on her way. Sometimes she even supported her as she strolled around rural fairs.

In March last year, the old woman accidentally hurt her legs and could not manage her household affairs. Han came over to

live with her. Every afternoon, when her classes were over, Han would put the woman on a flat-bed tricycle to send her to the clinic for an injection. Then in the evening, she helped her brew medicinal herbs, poured out her chamber pot and applied warm towels to her legs. When the old woman had a poor appetite, Han boiled egg soup for her.

All the villagers said, "Although Han Yujuan is still a little girl, she has a fervent heart."

The Nation's Diet

from "KEXUE HUABAO"
(Science Pictorial)

THE shortage of non-staple food, and particularly the low consumption of animal proteins, is the main defect in the diet of most Chinese people, according to Xu Dadao, a renowned nutritionist and professor at the Shanghai No. 1 Medical College.

Xu pointed out that people rely on cereals for more than 80 per cent of the calories they need, and 70 per cent of their protein. The proportion in their diets of carbohydrates to protein to fat ends up being about 7 to 1 to 0.3. That means the average Chinese person eats about 182.5 kilos of cereal, 5.7 kilos of soybeans, 13.6 kilos of meat, 7.5 kilos of fish, 6 kilos of eggs, 6 kilos of edible oil, 182.5 kilos of vegetables, 30 kilos of fruit and 3.65 kilos of sugar a year.

But Xu thinks a more rational proportion of carbohydrates to protein to fat would be 6 to 1 to 0.6. That would mean changing the average annual consumption to 162 kilos of cereal, 12 kilos of soybeans, 32 kilos of meat, 12 kilos of fish, 9 kilos of eggs, 9 kilos of edible oil, 146 kilos of vegetables, 36.5 kilos of fruit and 6 kilos of sugar.

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Papercuts by Cong Lin

Brought up in an environment of folk art, the artist has been fond of papercuts since childhood. Most of her works are of flowers, birds and insects. They are forceful, bright and vivid, and show fine workmanship. On close inspection one can see the similarity of her work with the folk papercuts of her native Shandong Province.

Born in 1918 in Penglai County, Cong Lin is now working at the Beijing Research Institute of Applied Arts.



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"Double Happiness" table tennis balls, "Aeroplane" shuttle-cocks and "Train" leather balls, produced and exported by Shanghai, have not only won the state's quality certificates but have been approved for use in international tournaments by the ITTF, IBF, FIFA, FIBA and IAAF.



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